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The Elba Clipper

VOLUME 100, NUMBER 37

50 CENTS

ELBA, ALABAMA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1997

1 SECTION, 14 PAGES PLUS 1 ADV INSERT

Elba's W & E Board hears request

By Ferrin Cox, Publisher

The Elba Water and Electric Board heard a request from County Commissioner Linda Westbrook and Robert Stephens that water lines be extended into the Woodland Grove Community.

Westbrook, who represents the area, District 1, presented the board with a petition signed by residents of the area involved.

She noted that engineering drawings of the project were not ready for presentation at this time, but would be available.

The board and the commissioners agreed to proceed with an in-depth study of the proposed project.

Superintendent James Grimes recommended the board reconsider the previous vote to purchase a used S-

10 type pick-up from state surplus. He recommended the purchase of a full size vehicle for use by Water Supervisor Dennis Coleman and transfer of the S-10 presently being driven by Coleman to the utility vehicle previously approved. The board approved, with member Ben Carpenter continuing to oppose the purchase of additional vehicles.

Grimes reported that the offer by Pete Cash to pay half the cost of extending a water line to his property on U. S. 84 (old 166) is being withdrawn because Cash needed water immediately and had to drill a well. The utility was still in the engineering stage of the proposed extension.

However, they voted to upgrade the 3/4" line presently serving several homes on the end of the existing

line. Low water pressure is reportedly common on that small line. The Superintendent asked for and received approval for the utility to replace the lights at Legion Field on the Babe Ruth ball field. The cost of purchasing the lights is \$12,500. They will be installed on existing poles.

A request that the utility purchase a used three axle trailer, at a cost of \$2500, to haul the backhoe passed but was opposed by Carpenter. He questioned aloud why a similar trailer owned by the City couldn't be used for this purpose.

Board members were told that a mower purchased last year to clear right-of-ways was too large for the tractor that was supposed to pull it. They were told that the specifications on the mower read that at least a 60 HP tractor was needed. The board approved looking for a 70 HP used tractor at the state surplus yard to operate this unit.

Meanwhile Chairman Tim Johnson said they would be looking at alternate options, such as contracting out right-of-way clearing.

Electric Supervisor Larry Eddings reported the department completed 87 work orders during the past month.

Water Supervisor Dennis Coleman reported the water department repaired 19 water leaks and installed 3 new taps.

Monthly bills totaling \$25,373.22 were approved for payment.

Johnson received approval for the City to join the Elba Chamber of Commerce.

He also presented the city's new personnel manual to the board for approval. It was accepted without debate.

Johnson noted he liked the ease to read of the new manual and the concise wording.

City projects nearing completion other are getting underway

By Marvin McIlwain, Editor

The City of Elba has several projects nearing completion and others which will soon be getting underway.

Donnie Morrow, Elba's city clerk, gave council members an update of the status of the projects during the last council meeting.

He advised the council that the necessary documents for the advertising of the bids for the connector road at the Elba City School Complex should be ready by this week (Feb. 17-21).

The bridge over Beaver Dam Creek has been completed and the road is now ready to be prepared for paving. When completed, the road

will provide another outlet from the school complex onto Taylor Mill Road.

The completion of this project should greatly aid in the flow of school traffic and during other activities at the school, such as sporting events.

Improvements to the city's sewer system are nearing completion. The installation of sewer taps on Teresa Street are 100 percent complete, Gibson Street 99 percent complete, Cedar Lane Drive 40 percent complete, and on Reese Avenue 20 percent complete.

Sponsors of the sewer grant have

Please See CITY, Page 10

New Brockton has own Lion King

By Ferrin Cox, Publisher

CHAOS normally means confusion, but in this case it is a two year old Black Mane African Lion, owned by Larry Stokes, of New Brockton. The 600 pound cat normally occupies a cage in Stokes' back yard, but when this photo was

snapped, he was enroute to a zoo and the companionship of another lion for a few months. Adjoining cages contain four mountain lions.

Stokes explained that a female companion of Chaos did recently and the 3/4 grown "King of the Beast" is plainly lonesome. He has started roaring, or calling for companionship, until Stokes scolds him from the open window of the house or goes out and sits with him. Stokes said he spends at least two hours per day "bonding" with his pet cat. He explained that while

Chaos is King of the Beast and likes to be treated as such, he also lets Stokes and a friend ride his on back around the pen and will wrestle with them. He enjoys being rubbed or



scratched and purred (or roars) a lion-sized rumble when being petted, rubbed or getting any kind of special attention.

When Stokes is playing with

Chaos and the King begins to get too rough for a human, he just speaks an authoritative "A-n-n-t" and Chaos stops whatever he is doing.

Enterprise man sentenced to 30 years in prison after guilty plea

By Marvin McIlwain, Editor

Kelvin Gerald Scott, age 19, of Enterprise has been sentenced to 30 years in prison after pleading guilty to charges of second-degree kidnapping, first-degree sodomy, and attempted rape in the first degree.

Circuit Judge Robert W. Barr pronounced sentence on Scott last Friday after he entered his guilty plea. He was scheduled to go to trial on the charges on March 24.

Scott was one of three inmates who "enjoyed freedom" for a short time after overpowering a Coffee County Corrections Officer on November 27, 1996.

He has remained in the Coffee County Jail since his arrest on Friday, May 3, 1996. His bail had been set at a total of \$300,000.00.

Scott's arrest followed an investigation by the Coffee County Sheriff's Department of an early morning gunpoint abduction and attempted sexual assault of an Elba woman on May 3.

At 2:35 a.m., Friday morning, May 3, New Brockton police found an abandoned pick-up truck with the driver's side window broken out. The vehicle was found in the ditch on U.S. Hwy. 84 between Enterprise and New Brockton.

Police officers found the vehicle with the engine running. Also, officers discovered a lady's purse and shoes in the truck.

Because of the suspicious nature of the incident, a deputy sheriff was requested to assist the New Brockton police officer.

At 2:59 a.m., the Coffee County Jail received a call from a resident on Co. Rd. 531 in the Bethany Community located just south of New Brockton. The caller stated that a female had come to the residence stating that she had been sexually assaulted.

Upon arrival at the residence, deputies learned that the female vic-

Please See PLEA, Page 10



OOPS...Shortly after 4:00 p.m. Monday afternoon, Elba police received a report that water was running over a long stretch of the roadway on Old Samson Road. A patrol car was sent to investigate and found the roadway was covered by several inches of swift running water for several hundred feet and it had not rained all day. The water continued to rise and police officers blocked each end of the road for safety reasons until the water subsided. It was later determined that the source of the water was from an area to the east of the old Seaboard Railroad bed where a drain had been snipped up by beavers. The water had not been able to drain properly for quite some time, and it had formed a good size pond of water. Earlier in the day, crews from the City of Elba's street department had unstopped the drain allowing the water to begin flowing; however, the force of the water blew out the drain allowing the water to all come at one time causing a flash flood. According to city officials, the street crew was attempting to prevent the water from eventually running around the old railroad track bed and washing the Old Samson Road into where there was no drain. The water rose so fast that it backed up behind the roadway and flooded a home belonging to Gary Lambert. Also, the rising water threatened several mobile homes to the west of Old Samson Road. A nursery and several other homes were in harm's way on the east side of the road too. Elba City Clerk Donnie Morrow stated that the city's liability insurance carrier had been notified and an adjuster would be sent to assess the damage. (MORE PICTURES ON PAGE 10)

Weather Awareness Week proclaimed

By Marvin McIlwain, Editor

Each spring, Alabama and the southeastern United States experience several episodes - many of them deadly - of severe weather.

Over the years the capability to warn people of impending hazardous weather has continued to improve.

Alabama Governor Fob James has proclaimed February 24 through February 28, 1997, Severe Weather Preparedness Week.

The Coffee County Emergency Management Agency joins the National Weather Service, the American Red Cross, and the Alabama Emergency Management Agency in spreading information to the public about severe weather and how it impacts our state.

Alabama is one of the hardest hit states in the nation by severe weather. The devastating tornado that struck the Goshen Church in Cherokee County on Palm Sunday 1994 and the one that touched down in Jopla and Arab in February 1995 will never be forgotten.

The following are some facts about severe weather in Alabama:

•Alabama ranks fourth in the nation in the number of killer tornadoes and fifth in the number of tornado fatalities. The state recorded the first tornado death of 1997 in a January 24, 1997 tornado in Tuscaloosa.

•In 1996, Alabama ranked second in the nation in the number of tornado deaths at seven. There were 33 deaths in the state during 1996 which caused 87 injuries.

•Lightning strikes caused one death and four injuries in 1996. Since 1950, lightning has killed ten people and injured 158 across the state. In an average year lightning will claim more victims than tornadoes or hurricanes.

•There was one flash flood related death in 1996, although there were 34 flash flood events and one major flash flood event. However, during the past eight years, 25 people have lost their lives because of flooding in Alabama. Many flood related deaths are due to people driving around barricades and into moving water over roadways.

•Severe thunderstorm winds reached damaging force at least 279 times in 1996 and caused millions of dollars in damage. There were no deaths recorded in 1996, but five people were injured by thunderstorm wind.

During Severe Weather Preparedness Week, a different natural hazard will be focussed on each day. Monday is the day to look at tornadoes and their history in Alabama. Tuesday will be used to address thunderstorms and lightning.

A statewide tornado drill is scheduled for Wednesday, in addition to focusing on getting weather information.

tion. Flooding and flash flooding will be the focus for Thursday, and on Friday, attention will be given to the overall warning system. Also, Friday is the alternate day for the tornado drill in case of bad weather on Wednesday.

The goal of having Alabama Severe Weather Preparedness Week is to help people learn how to prevent injuries and deaths from tornadoes, damaging wind, flash flooding, lightning, and hail.

Over and over, after every disaster, people survive severe weather because they know what to do.

Emergency preparedness should come before an emergency, not during one. By taking a few minutes to learn or review safety precautions, one can save one's own life or the life of a friend or family member.

For more information contact Charles Webb or Terry Wilkins at the Coffee County Emergency Management Agency at 894-5415.

BE
PREPARED
PLAN
AHEAD

** HAPPENINGS **

COMMISSION MEETING. The Coffee County Commission will hold its bi-monthly meeting Monday, February 24, at 9:00 a.m. in the Community Room located in the Farm Center Complex in New Brockton.

PANCAKES PANCAKES AND MORE PANCAKES. The Elba Lions Club will hold its annual pancake breakfast on Saturday, March 1, 1997, at the Elba Senior Citizens Center. Serving will begin at 6:00 a.m. and last until 10:00 a.m. The price for adults is \$3.00 and \$2.00 for children.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT DAY. Another Community Spirit Day is planned for Saturday, March 1, 1997, in the city of Elba. Kick-off for the event will begin with the Lion's Club Breakfast at the Senior Citizens Center at 6:30 a.m. A number of projects are being scheduled for the day. The new "Welcome to Elba" signs with landscaping will be installed; another work-day for restoration of the old county jail; and general clean-up around town will be done. Several special activities are being planned by local businesses and community groups. The Chamber of Commerce is asking anyone who knows of a particular need for clean-up, destruction of old buildings, and general "sprucing up" to contact their city councilman or call the Chamber office at 897-3125.

RELAY FOR LIFE. Teams are now being signed up for the 1997 Coffee County Relay for Life. The event is to raise funds for the fight against cancer. For more information call David at 347-4247.



RETIREMENT CENTER...On Thursday (Feb. 6) afternoon, a delayed groundbreaking ceremony was held to officially mark the construction of Taylor Mill Oaks - an assisted living facility. The center is located on Taylor Mill Road just past the Elba Country Club. Kenneth and Katrina Calhoun, owners of the facility, stated that construction is on schedule and they hope to have a grand opening real soon. Those participating in the ceremony are pictured above. They are (l-r): Junior Miss Elba Misty Kelley, Herby McCall, Kenneth Calhoun (owner), Katrina Calhoun (owner and manager), Barry Giles, Elba Mayor James Grimes, Little Miss Elba Haley Stinson, Miss Elba Destiny Brown, and Barbara Hudson.

BRAINSTORMS

With Ferrin Cox

Last week we were a bit upset over Alabama's governor replaying the 1963 "Stand in the School House Door" story with his comments over displaying the Ten Commandments in a courtroom. Sunday Alabama's new Attorney General Bill Pryor went on national TV and explained that the two were not the same, because the Ten Commandments issue was one of principals, or something like that. Well, they are not the same to us either but going back to the time George Wallace stood in the school house door, he said at that time he was upholding a principal also! Again, we urge that this religious issue be settled in the courts and Alabama folks concentrate on getting publicity over positive actions. Folks could be doing something good for our children's mind and health or devising a workable way to get more people off welfare without punishing those who don't really have a choice.

The challenge to the Ten Commandments hanging in an Alabama courtroom was filed by the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). Several times in recent days the tag "ACLU supporter" has been used when one person wanted to insult another... sometimes jokingly and other times not so jokingly. Readers have to admit, the ACLU does fight some mighty unpopular battles!

Larry Stokes and his pet lion looked mighty friendly last week and that is good. However, that is one friendly relationship this country newspaper publisher doesn't have any desire to have! Actually, we don't even like having a plain old house cat around causing us to stumble across the yard. Some day we will read about a pet lion hurting his friend and owner... hopefully it won't be one of our friends. You got that Larry!

An asteroid crashing into earth 65 million years ago killed off all the dinosaurs, and most other existing life on land and in the oceans. That is the hot news today. Actually the really bad news from the scientific community is that it could happen again. There has been a flurry of news stories on this matter recently. A person can't help but wonder if that is something which just happened or was it somehow connected with the scheduled showing this week of a Hollywood made movie on such an incident. Whatever, don't plan to worry about such an event reoccurring. Science has no way to stop it (they meet, discuss it and come away shaking their heads) and it may be another 65 millions years away. Also, apparently anyone who survived a repeat strike would be the real victim, freezing and slowly starving to death... the rest of us wouldn't know what hit us. Our prayer is for a few more million years on this earth before another asteroid hits and gets us and our friends.

Ignoring all the talk and movies exploiting asteroids, etc., we were watching a science program recently in which they were talking about, and explaining the basics of, aging and traveling at the speed of light. It seems that if a friend of ours gets on a space ship and goes to the middle of the Milky Way at the speed of light - and then returns to earth, this friend will be about 40 years older. However, everything on earth will be thousands and thousands of years older. That is not real easy to understand, but the story got more confusing. The same experts say, with a straight face, it is technically possible to go backwards in time. When asked if someone going back in time could change history, it became time for a refrigerator break! They say yes, a person could change history, but in a parallel universe and not this one! If you understand all that, just keep it to yourself! Someone hearing the admission might try to lock you up.



VALENTINE KING AND QUEEN... Last Friday afternoon residents of the Elba Nursing Home were treated to a Valentine party with all the trimmings. A king and queen were selected to reign over the festivities. Pictured above are: Queen Bonnie Johnson and King D. W. Cordle. They were selected by a vote of the staff and residents. According to reports a good time was had by all.

Letters To The Editor Policy

The Elba Clipper encourages its readers to express their comments and views in the form of Letters to the Editor. Letters should not contain libelous material and should be in good taste. The editor reserves the right to edit all letters for style and grammar. Letters should be signed - NO UNSIGNED LETTERS WILL BE PUBLISHED! A phone number should accompany the letter for the purpose of confirming the author of the letter (Phone numbers will not be printed with letters). Address letters to: Letters to the Editor, The Elba Clipper, P.O. Drawer A, Elba, AL 36323.

The Elba Clipper

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Alabama Counties - \$17.00 Per Year - Including Tax
6 Months - \$9.00
Outside Alabama - \$18.00 Per Year - 6 Months - \$10.00

ELBA GENERAL HOSPITAL REPORT

Elba General Hospital had the following persons admitted during the time period of February 11, 1997 through February 17, 1997.

They were: Teresa Adams, Annie Hall, Leslie Compton, Nettie Ruth Messick, Christine Bradley, Trudie Jackson, U. V. McDaniel, Donna Boswell, Rosa Webb, Louise Cooper, Kenneth Reeves, Raynell Danley, Madie Kelley, Javanna Adams, Tishan Compton, Johnny Johnson, Juanita Robinson, Louise Daughtry, Samantha Bowman, Pearl Tyson, James B. Nichols, and Mildred Kelley.

Patients discharged during the same period of time were: Charles Watson, Henry Stackhouse, Teresa Adams, William Henderson, Thelma Scott, Leslie Compton, Lucille Stackhouse, Pettie Wambles, Daisy Rhoades, Louise Cooper, Rosa Webb, Trudie Jackson, Johnny Johnson, Samantha Bowman, Javanna Adams, Mildred Kelley, Nettie Ruth Messick, Kenneth Reeves, Tishan Compton, Annie Hall, Donna Boswell, Christine Bradley, and Raynell Danley.

BE CAREFUL!

ELBA POLICE REPORT

FEBRUARY 10 THRU FEBRUARY 16, 1997

The Elba Police Department, beginning Monday, February 10, 1997, investigated the following incidents: nine thefts of property, one child neglect, two criminal mischief, one forgery, one vehicle damage, one resisting arrest, two burglaries, one disorderly conduct, two assaults, one breaking and entering, one public intoxication, one harassment, and one menacing.

Arrests were as follows: one for disorderly conduct, three for resisting arrest, one for theft of property, one for assault, and one for public intoxication.

Traffic citations issued were as follows: nine for speeding, one for an expired tag, one for running stop sign, one for driving while driver's license is revoked, and one for no driver's license.

Daily activity highlights were as follows:

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 10 - River stage - 5.30 feet (6:33 a.m.); Wreck reported on Davis St. (6:53 a.m.); Rescue run to a wreck on Co. Rd. 114 (7:21 a.m.); Alarm at a residence on AL Hwy. 87N (5:38 p.m.); Alarm at a residence on Reese Ave. (8:08 p.m.).

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11 - Possible propane rupture in Morrow Village (1:38 a.m.); River stage - 5.28 feet (6:15 a.m.); Rescue run to a wreck on Co. Rd. 107 (7:22 a.m.).

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 12 - River stage - 5.17 feet (6:13 a.m.); Wreck reported at Dorsey Trailers.

MAKING OURSELVES CLEARER

The Elba Clipper wants to correct errors that appear in this newspaper. Any reader wishing to point out an error, whether ours or those of our sources, should contact the editor at 897-2823. Corrections will appear promptly in this space.

Bulletin Board

S.S. REP - Courthouse, 4th Tues. 12:30-1:30. Call Fred 1-800-772-2213
ROTARY CLUB - Tuesday @ Noon - Elm Baptist Church Fellowship Hall
ELBA MINISTRIAL ASSN. - Tues. 8:00 a.m. Elba United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall
ELBA CITY COUNCIL - 2nd & 4th Monday - 6:00 p.m. City Hall
WATER & ELECTRIC - Tuesday following 2nd Monday - 6:00 p.m. City Hall
COFFEE COUNTY COMMISSION - 2nd & 4th Monday of each month - Community Room in Farm Center Complex @ New Brockton
LIONS CLUB - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 6:30 p.m. Senior Citizens Center
ELBA CITY SCHOOL BOARD 1st Tues. - 5:30 p.m. - Supt. Office
AMERICAN LEGION - 1st Thurs. - 7:30 p.m. - Legion Hall, Troy Hwy.
RESCUE SQUAD - 2nd & 4th Tues. - 7:00 p.m. - Rescue Squad Building
MASSONIC LODGE 178 1st & 3rd Monday of each month - 7:00 p.m.
BAND BOOSTERS 1st Mon. - 7 p.m. - Band Room @ Elm High School
VETERANS SERVICE OFFICER Mon-Fri 1-12 noon & 12:30-4:30 New Brockton @ Farm Center Complex 894-5858
COFFEE COUNTY COONHUNTERS ASSN. - 3rd Sat. 3 p.m. Club House
COFFEE REFORMERS MEN 3rd Wed. Noon - Coffee Reformer Bar
AIRPORT AUTHORITY 1st Tuesday-12 Noon - City Hall Conference Room
AARP Meets every 3rd Tuesday night of the month
CIVIL AIR PATROL Every Monday 7:00 p.m. - Elba Airport-Danville hangar

The space made pos. by National Security Insurance Co.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Welfare reform is top priority in 1997 regular session

by Sen. Dwight Adams

State lawmakers have gathered once again in Montgomery to consider many issues that will affect Alabamians. In particular, the 1997 regular session will see landmark legislation on an issue that will affect Alabama now and for many generations to come: welfare reform.

The governor has asked me to sponsor a comprehensive package to reform the welfare system. It will help put people to work, thus reducing the funds required to support the welfare program. Our current welfare system is out of control and I hope this new welfare package will reduce welfare spending, which is paid with your tax dollars. The system has been abused to the point that many recipients no longer attempt to find work but rely on government handouts for support.

Alabama is now required by federal law to help welfare recipients find employment. In addition, the Alabama Legislature must prove legislation that will determine how federal welfare money will be administered to recipients in the future.

As a start, Alabama lawmakers

will find employment for 20% of the people who have been under the Aid to Family with Dependent Children program, with the target percentage increasing to 30% next year. Recipients must work at least 20 hours a week, but I am hopeful that these individuals can obtain 40-hour positions.

Satisfaction comes from employment and responsibility. For able-bodied persons, taking care of yourself and your dependents should be priority number one. Under my plan, welfare recipients must work after two years on assistance, with few exceptions. They must participate in unsubsidized training or employment, on the job training, work experience, community service, 12 months of vocational training or prove child care services to persons who are participating in community service.

To help speed the transition into the workforce, the new federal welfare law allows women on welfare to continue to receive health coverage for their families, including at least one year of transitional Medicaid when they leave welfare.

One of the major problems with the current welfare system is that people get trapped in a cycle and become dependent upon the government. Now, the welfare cash

benefits will stop after five years, which is more than enough time to find steady employment.

The federal government is responsible for 90% of the welfare program and will continue to oversee food stamps, Supplemental Security Income, housing and medical care. Individual states must oversee improvements in the remaining 10%. The Alabama Legislature plans on doing its part by helping reduce this enormous strain on our tax system.

In addition to tax savings for you, states that move people from welfare to employment are eligible to receive part of \$1 billion that will be awarded between 1999 and 2003 as performance bonuses.

Welfare reform is long overdue and I am glad we can finally start correcting the problem. Changes must be made to cut the waste and fraud associated with the current system.

In the coming weeks through this newspaper, I will inform you about welfare reform and other issues being considered in Montgomery. Please contact my office if you have any questions about legislative issues or if you need additional information. I need your input as I lead the effort in the Senate to reform welfare and other issues important to our state.



FROM THE HOUSE

Congressman
Terry Everett

Administration's Budget Arrives on Capitol Hill

After exercising cautious optimism last week over the potential for the President to work with Congress in shaping a balanced budget, it looks like the Administration's new budget is more of the same old, same old.

Fiscal 1998 will mark the 13th straight year of real decline in the defense budget. This means less and less for our men and women in uniform who are increasingly called upon by the President to carry out his foreign policy around the globe. Like its approach of assuming the American economy will remain robust for five years, this Administration continues to risk America's defense capability on the assumption that our nation will not need to defend itself. This is a dangerous risk.

Medicare recipients concerned about the looming bankruptcy of their program may be surprised to learn that the Administration's budget contains no permanent solution to the problem. It extends Medicare Part A's solvency only by shuffling home health care spending into the voluntary Part B program.

Among other details of the Administration's new budget is an effort to restore \$18 billion of the cuts made in Welfare last year. In fact, the Administration's budget increases non-defense discretionary spending by \$100 billion.

With the Administration's much-awaited budget in hand, it's time to get to work. For all its flaws, it can serve as a beginning point for Congress and the White House to begin serious negotiations to implement an honest balanced budget, pass permanent tax cuts, rescue Medicare from bankruptcy, and eliminate wasteful government spending. With the American people's support, I remain hopeful that we can accomplish these necessary goals.

What if their rosy economic estimates are wrong? Built into the Administration's budget is an escape hatch authorizing an end to its proposed tax cuts while making deeper cuts in federal spending in order to make up for the lost revenues. In short, the Administration's budget would repeal its proposed tax cuts for families after the President leaves office, but would keep proposed tax increases permanently in place. I believe tax relief should be permanent, and only spending should be

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LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Dear Editor,

The Boy's 10 and Under basketball season just ended, and I want to offer my congratulations to all four teams. I wish to applaud one team in particular. They finished with a perfect season, No. 1, I am not talking about the Pacers. The team I am referring to is that of the Bulls. They posted a perfect record of zero wins and six losses.

You might wonder why I am singing the praises of this team. True, they never came close to winning this year. They did, however, show improvement each week. What was impressive was the attitude. These boys never gave up. For six weeks each boy played to the best of his abilities against superior size and numbers. This is what true sportsmanship is all about. So three cheers for Chase, Doug, Duke, Justin, Shawn, and Todd, along with their coach and our two half-time mighty mites Michael and Tyrese.

Doug Turnbull

Pictured L to R: Grady Farris, J.R. Brunson and Rex Boutwell

Brunson speaks to local Lions Club recently

President of National Security Insurance Company, J.R. Brunson, was the recent guest speaker to the

Lions Club.

Mr. Brunson briefly discussed the past 50 years of National Security, starting with its beginning in 1947.

He stated it was founded by his brother, W.L. Brunson and D.M. English, along with other investors, with a total capital of \$32,500.00. The company has since grown to the point of doing business in 12 to 13 states, with approximately 85 people working in the home office in Elba. It has a total income of \$33,000,000 with assets of approximately \$100,000,000.

National Security is a strong supporter of the community and requires home office supervisors to reside in the Elba area. The company's impact on community is indicated by local postage of \$250,000 a year. Also, phone service of \$100,000, utilities of \$50,000, and annual payroll of \$1,750,000.

Many points of interest in the insurance business were shared by Mr. Brunson.

Share Your Views!
Write a Letter
To the Editor.

Elba Chamber of Commerce 1997 Membership/Renewals

Mr. Henry's American Food Shop
Elba Propane Gas & Appliance
Elba River Timber Co., Inc.
Army Aviation Center Federal Credit Union
Big Little Stores, Inc.
The Peoples Bank
Dr. Billy Farris
Home Care Services
Gary Allen, ALFA Agent
Covington Elec. Coop., Inc.
Brunson's Mini-Storage
Williams Signs, Inc.
Mike McGuire, State Farm Agent
Elba City Board of Education
Windham Lumber Co., Inc.
Maddox Signs & Engravings
Whitman Drug Co.
Elba General Hospital & Nursing Home
SouthTrust Bank
SouthEast Insurance & Real Estate
SouthEast Cardiology
Pat Powell
SouthEast AL Gas

Thank you so much for your support of the Elba Chamber of Commerce. If you have not paid your 1997 dues, please join us today. We need your support to reach our goal of 150 in 1997. Our mission is to promote business, community growth and development. The chamber will also strive to improve the community and be responsive to the needs and concerns of the people of Elba.



FEBRUARY USED CAR SPECIALS

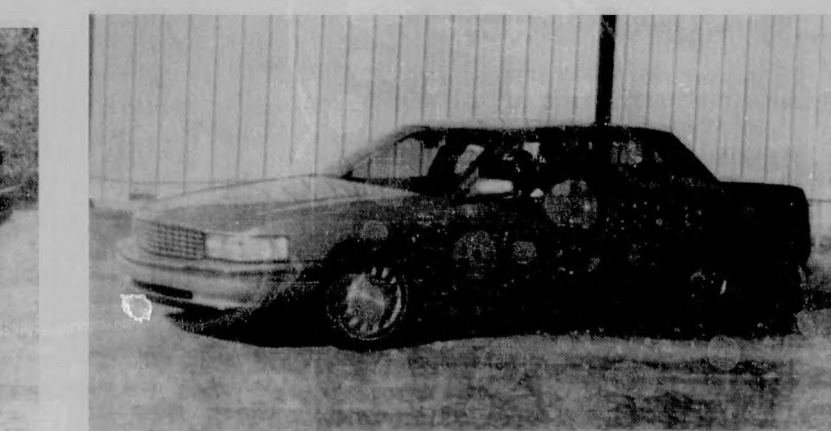
at Cook Chevrolet



1995 NISSAN SENTRA



1996 LUMINA



1996 CADILLAC DEVILLE



1994 PARK AVENUE



1995 4 - DOOR TAHOE



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SALES & SERVICE

AREA DEATHS

JEWELL L. JONES

Jewell L. Jones, age 84 of the Goodman Community, Enterprise, Alabama, died Monday, February 17, 1997 at her home.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 18, 1997 from the Goodman Baptist Church with Rev. John Granger and Rev. James Preachers officiating.

Burial followed in the Goodman Cemetery with Searcy Funeral Home of Enterprise, AL directing.

Survivors include one daughter and son-in-law, Sylvia and Jack Padgett of Elba, AL; two sons and daughters-in-law, Bobby and Barbara Jones of Birmingham, AL; and Doyce and Callie Jones of Goodman Community, AL; 5 grandchildren.

CLEONE S. PITTMAN

Cleone S. Pittman, age 90 of New Brockton, Alabama, died Tuesday, February 18, 1997 in a Hartford, AL nursing home.

Funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m., Thursday, February 20, 1997 from the El Bethel Assembly of God with Rev. Eddie Crutchfield, Rev. Mike Taylor, and Rev. Robert Barr officiating.

Burial followed in the Zoar Church Cemetery with Patterson Funeral Home of Enterprise, AL directing.

Survivors include one daughter and son-in-law, Dennis and Kenneth Walden of New Brockton, AL; two sons and daughters-in-law, John Leon and Bobbie Frazier and Doug and Juliana Pittman, all of New Brockton, AL; two brothers, Alvin Stevens and Louie Stevens, both of New Brockton, AL; 7 grandchildren, 13 great grandchildren; 6 great grandchildren.

Pre-need Funeral Planning now available at Hayes Funeral Home for details 897-2225

MILA E. BOSWELL

Mila E. Boswell, age 87 of Elba, Alabama, died Sunday, February 16, 1997 in an Elba, AL nursing home.

Funeral services were held at 2:00 p.m., Tuesday, February 18, 1997 from the Zion Chapel Baptist Church with Rev. Ben Ampong, Rev. Mark Griffin, and Rev. Raymond Miller officiating.

Burial followed in the Evergreen Cemetery with Hayes Funeral Home directing.

Survivors include four daughters, Pansy Bush and Mary Hutchison, both of Niceville, Florida and Helen Smith and Jean Christian, both of Fort Walton Beach, FL; four sons, Harry Boswell of Jack, AL; James Boswell of Montgomery, AL; Gerald Boswell of Elba, AL; and Sam Boswell of Enterprise, AL; one brother, Robert Hussey, Jr. of Jack, AL; 36 grandchildren; 49 great grandchildren; 22 great great grandchildren.

LALA PEARL CLOWER

Lala Pearl Clower, age 85, died Friday, February 7, 1997 following an illness.

She was a native of Jack, Alabama, but lived in Albany, Georgia since 1962. She was a retired school teacher having taught in Alabama, Florida, and Georgia.

Funeral services were held at 1:00 p.m., Monday, February 10, 1997 from the Chestnut Grove Methodist Church Cemetery with Rev. Cecil Bradley and Rev. Doug Golden officiating.

Burial followed in the church cemetery with Dillard-Jackson-Bryan Funeral Home of Brundidge, AL directing.

Survivors include a sister, Irma Stinson of Fresno, California; two nieces, Esteen Spring of Melbourne, Florida and Melvine Stewart of Stafford, Arizona. Pallbearers were: Earl Helms, Lavell Johnson, Bill Daughtry, Martin Mobley, Larry Doster, and Hollis Kelley.

VIRGIL COLEMAN MORTUARY

In Time of Need Call
205-897-6148 We accept Discover Cards
• FREE Notary • FREE Pick-up within 300 miles.
• World Wide Fax Services
• PRE-NEED Funeral Planning Available

Social & Community News

Cowart-Oliver wedding to be held Saturday, May 24th



Miss Rachel Cowart

Dr. and Mrs. William O. Cowart of Elba announce the engagement of their daughter, Rachel Louise, to David McCarty Oliver, son of Mr. and Mrs. John P. Oliver II, of Dadeville.

Miss Cowart is the granddaughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey B. Cowart of Troy and Mrs. Raymond Adams and the late Mr. Adams of Moultrie, GA. She is a 1991 graduate of Auburn University and is employed with Alabama Gas Corporation in Birmingham.

Mr. Oliver is the grandson of the late Mr. and Mrs. Samuel W. Oliver, Sr. of Dadeville and the late Mr. and Mrs. Howard Vann of Le-wisburg, TN. He is a 1991 graduate of the University of Colorado at Boulder and is employed with Alabama Power Company in Birmingham.

The wedding is planned for 2:00 p.m. May 24 at the Elba United Methodist Church.

New Arrival

LESTER RAYMOND TAYLOR

John and Anita Taylor of Ozark, formerly of Elba, proudly announce the birth of their son, Lester Raymond Taylor, on January 30, 1997. His grandparents are the late Lester Taylor of Elba and Olen Taylor of the Elba Nursing Home, and Ray and Sybil Drum of Ozark. His great grandmother is Mrs. Alice Bowers of Brundidge, formerly of Elba.

New Arrival

WOODS HOLLON PARRISH

Greg and Stephanie Parrish of Opelika, AL, announce the birth of their son, Woods Hollon Parrish, on January 16, 1997. He was born at East Alabama Medical Center of Opelika, AL, and weighed 7lbs. 15oz. and was 21 inches long. Grandparents are Jerry and Sandra Parrish of Wicksburg, AL and John and Pam Crittenden of Elba, AL.

Prophetic Conference 1997 to be held March 5-7

Prophetic Conference 1997 will be held Wednesday, March 5, thru Friday, March 7, at the New Abundant Life Deliverance Minist. with Bishop Hinton and Pastor Linda Williams, at 7:30 nightly. The guest speaker will be Bishop Bernard Jordan from New York City. For more information call 334/897-5497.

GROUND BREAKING CEREMONIES were held at Shiloh Baptist Church on Saturday afternoon, February 9 for a completely new church facility. The church was established on May 23, 1857 and has been in continuous service now for 140 years. Attendance varies, as in any church, but on a recent Sunday morning there were 67 worshippers in Sunday School. The fund for the new building was started in July, 1996, and members had contributed over \$32,000 by the time of the groundbreaking. Special messages were delivered by Reverend Milford Johnson and Reverend Joel Jackson, director of the Coffee County Baptist Association.

"Song of the Chattahoochee" Exhibit now at Landmark Park

Explore one of the South's great natural resources during Landmark Park's "Song of the Chattahoochee" photography exhibit, February 16 through March 10. The exhibit is a collection of the landscape and documentary photography of Joe and Monica Cook's 540-mile canoe voyage down the Chattahoochee River.

In conjunction with the exhibit, the Cooks will give a multi-media slide presentation on Sunday, February 23 at 2:00 p.m. in the park's interpretive center. The presentation is an educational, entertaining, and inspirational complement to the exhibit as the Cooks relay highlights of their 100-day adventure.

The exhibit consists of 39 framed photographs and addresses the following topics: the river's headwaters in the Chattahoochee National Forest; Land development in North Georgia and Metro Atlanta; Dams and Lakes; Wastewater and Pollution; Commercial navigation on the lower Chattahoochee; the effects of 100 years of "river improvement"; Water Wars; the future of our water resources; Plant Life; a look at the river's bounty of flora; Animals; the river's cruises; Travel by Canoe; celebrating the simplest means of movement; Fishermen; a portrait of

Miss Simmons & Mrs. Sanders plan March wedding

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph E. Simmons are pleased to announce the engagement and forthcoming marriage of their daughter, Jana Felicity, to Chris Dale Sanders.

Grandparents of the bride are Mr. and Mrs. Dexter Andrews of New Brockton, Mr. Earl Simmons of Opp, and Ms. Sallie Louise Wilson of New Brockton. The bride-to-be is a 1996 graduate of New Brockton High School and is currently employed as a nursing aide at Elba Nursing Home in Elba, AL.

Chris is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harold D. Sanders of Montgomery and the grandson of the late Ms. Elsie Henderson of Montgomery. Mr. Harold Sanders of Cochran, GA, and the late Mr. and Mrs. Pruitt of Montgomery.

The wedding ceremony will take place Saturday, May 15, 1997 at 2:00 p.m. at the First Baptist Church in New Brockton. A reception will follow in the church fellowship hall. All family and friends are invited and encouraged to attend.

The newlyweds will reside in New Brockton.

Mrs. Eastburn & Mrs. Driscoll host Azalea Garden Club's February meeting

The Azalea Garden Club met February 12, 1997 at Ella's Tea Room. Mrs. Charles Eastburn and Mrs. Jim Driscoll were hostesses, with twelve members in attendance. Sherry Trawick of New Brockton gave an informative program on landscape design and provided many helpful tips one could use around their home.

Following the business meeting,

club members adjourned to the Elba Elementary School where a tree planting ceremony took place in observance of National Arbor Day. Joining The Azalea Garden Club were Judy Killingsworth, principal, Mrs. Lynn Wilson's first grade class and Nathaniel Russell who prepared the ground for the tree planting ceremony.

Peggy Warren speaks to the Magnolia Home & Garden Club

Peggy Warren, interior decorator, was guest of the Magnolia Home and Garden Club on February 6 at the Elba Public Library. Those serving as hostesses were Mildred Pearce, Catherine Spurlin, and Davis Davis.

Mrs. Warren is with Thomasville Gallery, Barrow's Furniture Company in Enterprise, AL. She presented

a program based on New Trends in Interior Decorating. For emphasis, the colors of fabrics, colors, floor finishes, and various textures were shown and discussed.

Following the program, a short business session was held. Sixteen members were present. The meeting adjourned.

Valentine Banquet enjoyed by Young at Heart Club

It was a nice, balmy night on February 11th, a bit early for Valentine's. However, the Young at Heart Club from the First Baptist Church was ready for fun, frolic, and food.

The spirits were high and all members contributed to the festive occasion by wearing red and white, Valentine colors. Wilson's fire truck red coat was super.

Nellie Martin created the setting and arrangements for the party. A large round table held the focal point, or hub, for seven long tables as spokes, creating a wheel effect. The round table was dressed in red and white floor length cloths. A huge basket holding one hundred red silk roses, interspersed with yellow forsythia, served as a focal point. The long tables were dressed in white with colorful Valentines, red folded paper fans, and white napkins. Resting on the end of each table-near the center table, were baskets of variegated silk flowers, complementing the red roses, and adding color and beauty to the area.

Entering guests assembled in the area near the center of the social hall. Here were tables dressed in white, complemented with colorful silk flower arrangements and handmade Valentines.

The guests spilled out and much visiting and socializing was enjoyed. Right on time the club's featured leader and party chef made his entry, followed by several helpers carrying piping hot trays filled with tender and delicious centerloin beefsteaks, baked potato, green salad, homemade bread from the kitchen of Jim and Francis, and colorful cherry delight pie.

The guests filled their plates with the steaks, baked potato, green salad, homemade bread from the kitchen of Jim and Francis, and colorful cherry delight pie.

The guests were seated in the party circle and the feast was on. Earlene directed a trio of "Filling the Blank" games pertaining to Valentine's, the Bible, and American literature.

Maui introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Gary Burton of Pinala Baptist Church of Montgomery. Dr. Burton hit the floor wide awake and soon had the full attention of his audience. His generous ability to entertain was readily shown by the re-

C.C. Arts Alliance to present Auburn Singers

The Coffee County Arts Alliance will present a special performance by the Auburn University Singers on Saturday, Feb. 22 at 7:30 p.m. at the Enterprise High School auditorium on East Watts Avenue.

The Singers, an auditioned group of 32 singers and 9 instrumentalists, is under the direction of Dr. Thomas R. Smith, director of choral activities.

Wiregrass members of the group include Chris Duke of Enterprise; Andrew McKeown, Ozark; Amy Morgan, Enterprise, and Will Whitworth, Enterprise.

Tickets are now on sale at Westgate Book and Gift, The Framery, and Plain 'N' Fancy, Enterprise; The Jewel Box in Elba, and the ITT Office at Ft. Rucker.

Advance tickets are \$14, student tickets \$12.

St. Patrick Says:

Get Lucky in March at The Jewel Box!

Register to win your "Pot of Gold".

The Jewel Box
"On The Square" 897-2296

* Pair of Gold Earrings to be given away on March 17th!



Life is never predictable. The unexpected can happen to anyone. We hope it never happens to you, but if it does, you will need a sound insurance program. See us for a no-obligation review of all your personal and business insurance needs.

MARSH INSURANCE AGENCY
137 N. Court Elba, AL 897-2981

ROUND & ABOUT WITH ERIA

897-2006

Scripture: Matthew 5:17-48.

Thinking of you, praying for you. The Adams family of Nagara Falls, NY, Annie Mae Coon, Fannie Wheeler, Jason Guiley, Marie Tillis, Onelia Frazier, Mildred Kelley, Joseph Long, John E. Folmar, Charles Hightower, Rev. Jimmy L. Caldwell, Myrt Mincey, Rosie Daniels, Pennie Rhodes, Bill Bailey, Rena Felton, Christine Roberson, Ethel Ellard, Christopher Baldwin Day, Roderick Rideaux.

Robert Weaver is sworn in as Administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency, becoming the highest ranking African American in the federal government.

Timeline 1989: February 15, Ronald H. Brown becomes Chairman of the Democratic National Committee, he is the first African American to chair in either the Democratic or Republican parties.

Black History Month
We, the African Americans, have made it through another year of hardships, denials, and frustrations. As we look back through the years from which many problems have plagued us, we do have hope for a better day. God is good to all of us and for that we are grateful, we know there have been (and still are) great leaders, but one in particular that stands out among the rest. He was a twenty-six year old Doctor of Philosophy, the late Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., former pastor of Dexter Avenue Baptist Church in Montgomery, AL. Dr. King won the world's respect and admiration as a leader of the Civil Rights protest and became internationally known as an advocate of Mahatma Gandhi's theories of passive resistance (non-violent protests). Dr. King was not only known for the role he played in the civil rights movement, but also for his strong, "I Have a Dream" speech when he spoke on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial August 28, 1963 from his dream of an integrated tomorrow. On April 4, 1968 at 6:00 p.m. a shot from a high-powered rifle rang out from the balcony of the Lorraine Motel in Memphis, TN, which ended the life of the thirty-nine year old Civil Rights activist. Yet the struggle goes on. Let's keep the dream alive of better and beautiful days and times ahead.

Installation Service
On February 23, 1997 at 3:00 p.m., Rev. Chester A. Hammonds, Jr. will be installed as the new pastor of the Pleasant Shade Baptist Church, Enterprise, AL. The guest minister will be Rev. Chester A. Hammonds, Sr., pastor of the First United Baptist Church of Andalusia, AL.

February Birthdays
Napoleon Tillis: Feb. 10; Scottie Tillis: Feb. 14; Marie Tillis: Feb. 18; Bufus Tillis Jr.: Feb. 20; and Annie L. Coleman: Feb. 22.

Dr. James L. Dawson
A profile of an Afro-American State At-Large Representative. Black History Month February 1997 by Vernon Culver

Dr. James L. Dawson, was born and reared in Goshen. He is a former teacher at Mulberry Heights High School in Elba, AL. Dawson is a World War II veteran and received three battle stars while serving with the Army Air Force. After the war, he earned a bachelor's degree in agriculture education from Alabama College. Between 1955 and 1963, he operated his own funeral home business in Luverne and Elba.

Deadline For Church News is MONDAY!!!

HARRIS TEMPLE NEWS

The Christian Education Department of Harris Temple COGIC will present a Saturday History Program on Saturday, February 22, 1997 at 10:00 a.m. Everyone is invited.

At 6:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 22, the Alabama State Misses Recording Choir of the COGIC will present a concert. The concert will be held at the Troy State Adams Center located on the campus of Troy State University in Troy, AL. Everyone is invited to attend.

Prayer for God to break our heart, our will and our selfishness is not something that we do readily. We would gladly do and seek anything else. Nothing of any worth comes without great cost. To give up yourself, your pride and your selfishness in order to be broken and molded again for the purposes of God is a painful and costly process. Let me say succinctly and with great clarity that unless you and I are willing for God to break us as His vessel, then our lives will never hold water in the eternal economy of God!

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Babbie Mason and Steve Amerson Concert to be held

On Sunday, March 2, 1997 Babbie Mason and Steve Amerson will be leading four area churches in the musical "Make Us One".

The churches are: Hillcrest Baptist, Johns Chapel AME, First Baptist Church, and St. Luke United Methodist. The program will be held at the Enterprise High School Auditorium, and there will be two presentations: a 4:00 p.m. matinee which requires a \$3.00 ticket, and a 5:30 performance with requires a \$5.00 ticket. During the 5:30 presentation there will be solo concerts by Mason and Amerson, nationally known contemporary Christian artists. Tickets can be purchased at the following locations: Hillcrest Baptist Church of Enterprise; Dove Christian Supply of Dothan; Shout of Jericho Bookstore of Troy; and Gospel World Christian Bookstore of Ozark.

When Dawson began work on his Ph. D., he sold his Elba funeral home. However, in 1963 he formed a partnership with the funeral home manager, and constructed a funeral home in Brundidge which is still in operation. Since then, he has also completed his associate's degree in mortuary and restorative art from Jefferson State College.

Apart from his pursuit of higher education and business success, he has dedicated his life to teaching. Since 1953, he has taught science and agriculture at the high school, college, and graduate levels. He also served as Associate Dean for Extension and Administrator of Alabama A&M University's Cooperative Extension Program (1890) from 1971 to 1993.

A row crop farmer and scholar, Dawson has drawn on his education and experience to write at least 10 professional papers on education. He has been presented more than 30 plaques and certificates for his civic contributions. These include awards from A&M University and Extension Service, local and state government, agricultural organizations, church and civic clubs, and various honor societies.

He has served as the chairperson for the Association of Extension Administrators at 1890 Land Grant Colleges and Universities and chairperson for the Alabama Rural Development Council. His greatest honor came in 1991 when the House of Representatives passed a resolution naming the three-story cooperative extension building on the campus of Alabama A&M University in his honor.

Dr. Dawson has a bachelor's, master's, and a Ph.D. degree in agriculture. He has 14 years of farm experience and 40 years of professional experience in agriculture. He and his wife, Gloria, live in Huntsville and have one daughter.

Today is a good day. Be grateful. Eria

PASTOR'S CORNER

Dr. Tony Dye
Westside Baptist Church

The way to repentance

(Part 2)

2 Timothy 2:25 "...in humility correcting those who are in opposition, if God perhaps will grant them repentance, so that they may know the truth."

Many today are discouraged because they lack repentance and excuse themselves by saying that it does not lie in our power to obtain a contrite heart, because repentance can only be granted as a miracle of the Holy Spirit. This is a sign that our thinking has been clouded by our enemy. Our human nature always seeks an excuse. Often we blame God because the gifts of contrition and repentance are not found in our lives.

We have no excuse when we do not have repentance. Jesus won it for us on the cross and God has shown us that we can obtain it through prayer in faith trusting in the victory He won on the cross. It is precisely when we become aware of the hardness of our hearts and our complete inability to repent by virtue of our own strength that we should pray all the more earnestly for this gift.

Prayer for God to break our heart, our will and our selfishness is not something that we do readily. We would gladly do and seek anything else. Nothing of any worth comes without great cost. To give up yourself, your pride and your selfishness in order to be broken and molded again for the purposes of God is a painful and costly process. Let me say succinctly and with great clarity that unless you and I are willing for God to break us as His vessel, then our lives will never hold water in the eternal economy of God!

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Elba Elementary School Menus

February 24 - 28, 1997

Breakfast	Lunch
Monday - Cheese Toast or Cereal, Juice, Milk	Monday - Ground Beef, Spanish Rice, Butter Beans, Peach Slices, Milk
Tuesday - Breakfast Pizza or Cereal, Juice, Milk	Tuesday - Baked Chicken, Rice, Green Beans, 1/2 Orange, Roll, Milk
Wednesday - Pancake w/ Syrup or Cereal, Juice, Milk	Wednesday - Steak Fingers, Hashed Potatoes, Pass & Carrots, Roll, Pears, Milk
Thursday - Sausage & Biscuit or Cereal, Juice, Milk	Thursday - Hamburger on Bun, French Fries, Lettuce, Tomato, Dill, Baked Beans, Cookies, Milk
Friday - Cheese Grits or Cereal, Toast, Juice, Milk	Friday - Cheese Gratin, Cheese, Corn on Cob, 1/2 Apple, Milk

Student Spotlight

by Renee Nicholson

Sha-Kira Stephens is the daughter of Michelle Hale. She is a member of EHA and Pals. Sha-Kira attends Greater New Zion Missionary Baptist Church. When she was asked what she liked best about EHS, she said teachers. Brian Rhodes is the son of Marilyn and Junior Stephens. He enjoys playing football. Brian is a member of FFA. When he was asked what he liked best about EHS, he said pop rallies. Kimberly Ward is the daughter of Cathy Ward. Her hobbies are listening to music and shopping. Kimberly is a member of EHS Band, Jr. Beta, Chi Alpha Mu, and Spanish Club.

??Question Corner??

by Vipul Patel

A survey was taken at Elba High School and the question that was asked was "What is the most important thing to you in the world?"

1. Stephanie Williams: God, Jesus, family.
2. Andrea Carney: True friends.
3. Leigh Kelley: God, family.
4. Lindsey Jereb: Health, God.
5. Renee Carpenter: Myself and the people who helped me get here.
6. Joyce Parker: God.
7. Brandon Salter: Friends and family.
8. Sue King: Faith in God.
9. Jerry Dubose: My friends and family.
10. Clinton Culliver: My Nirvana collection.
11. Chris Turner: Life.
12. Mrs. Rhodes: Having family around.
13. Shon Smart: Girls.
14. Allen Samuel: The future.
15. Tony Fleming: Education.
16. Zake Prestigian: Girls.
17. Kim Thomas: Myself.
18. Curtis Calliner: C.D. players.
19. Rachael Bloodworth: Love.
20. Nathan Rahey: Food & water.

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- Tuesday library is open from 9 a.m. til 7 p.m.
- Wednesday - open from 9 a.m. until noon

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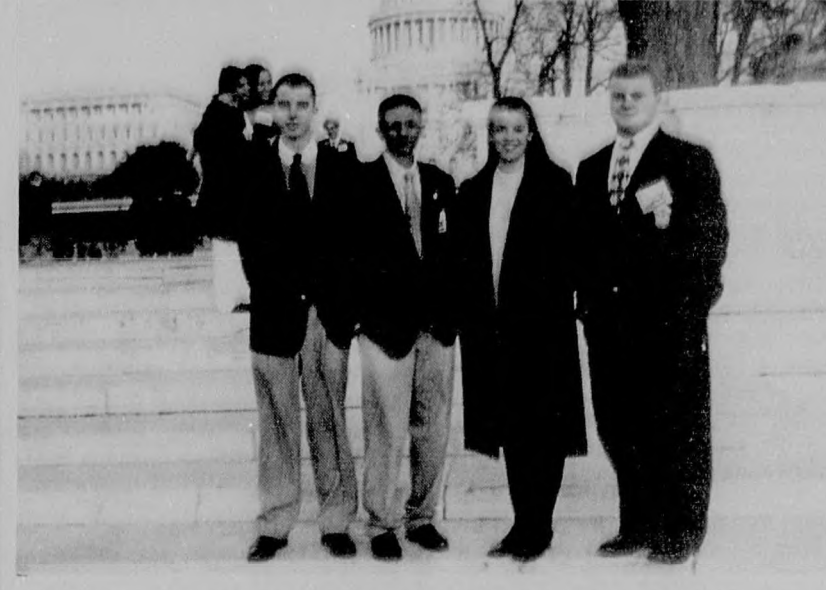
Tiger Tales



CARLA GRAY Editor
CHASTITY WILLIAMS Assistant Editor

Presidential Classroom

by Brittany McCall
John DuBose, Brittany McCall, Todd McKee, and Vipul Patel from Elba High School recently took part in the Presidential Classroom Scholars program in Washington, DC during the week of February 1-8. These students joined more than 350 high school juniors and seniors from 36 states and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico. They spent a week meeting with government leaders and learning about the democratic process firsthand. Highlights for the week included a



Pictured above (l to r) are John DuBose, Vipul Patel, Brittany McCall, and Todd McKee.



FHA OFFICERS... (standing, l to r) Sec. Ayida Cumberland, Rep. Anna Head, (kneeling, l to r) Pres. Jessica Parks, V. Pres. Angie Crocker, His. Tonya Johnson.

Unsung Heroes Serve As Salt

by D'Undray Peterson

"They may never be publicly applauded. Only a handful of people may praise them. In fact, they may be criticized and written off as foolish or even weak-minded. Yet they are the unsung heroes who serve as the salt that saves society from total corruption. Michael Wood of the Institute for Biblical Studies in Austin, Texas, identifies some of these individuals who won't get TV coverage but who ought to be in humanity's Hall of Fame. One such person, "though viciously slandered and misunderstood, refuses to become discouraged or to fight back." Another is the "person who, in spite of bitter dis-

Do Unto Others...

by Erin Vignola

"The people in our planet are not standing in a single file line. Look closely. Everyone is really standing in a circle, holding hands. Whatever you give to the person standing next to you, it eventually comes back to you." One of the first things I learned in school was to share with others. Whether it be a smile, a kind word, or a helping

Support The Tigers

Beastly Teens?
Music soothes the savage beast, but will it work for at-risk teens? Researchers from UAB's School of Public Health have a three-year, \$300,000 grant from the Center for Substance Abuse to introduce jazz music and photography lessons into two middle schools in Perry County, Alabama. "If children in this age group have one meaningful outside activity, school drop-out rates and aggressiveness drops," says Vee Stalker, M.P.A., director of community activities. Teens will be offered lessons one hour a week for the remainder of the school year and the next two school years. Renowned jazz pianist Consuela Lee (Cinematographer Spike Lee's aunt) will begin teaching her students using xylophones to simulate a piano keyboard.

Know What Flowers Say
The tradition of sending flowers dates back to Victorian times, but the symbolism has changed dramatically. "You can send a very pointed message with a bouquet, so Valentines should be careful," says Verna Gates, UAB Special Studies instructor. "It is pretty commonly known that a red rose means love, but Victorians sent flowers to say everything from 'meet me under the moonlight' to 'you have no claim on me'." The pasque flower told admirers that claim was rejected, and the French rose suggested a meeting under the moonlight. The sending of a white rose symbolizes worthiness; a daisy symbolizes sincerity; a poppy says "you are extravagant"; and a Carolina rose says "your love is dangerous."

Raising Baby
Financial planning for a new baby goes beyond paying the hospital bill, which can cost \$5,000 for a healthy baby. The first priority? "Get all credit card debt cleaned up ASAP," says Kendal P. Hill, Ph.D., chair of UAB's School of Business finance department. And, breadwinners should get at least \$200,000 of term life insurance. Planning to send a child to a public university? Start investing \$50 a month in a growth mutual fund; if a private college is the goal, invest \$150 or more.

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National FHA Week

by Tiffany Lewis
The Zion Chapel Chapter of the Future Homemakers of America (FHA) celebrated National FHA Week by having a special event for each day of the week. National FHA Week was February 9-15. On Monday FHA officers met and hung up banners to advertise National FHA Week. On Tuesday members of FHA brought each teacher a sausage bi-



Chapter President Tiffany Lewis and Sponsor Joan Hobbs lead FHA Week activities.

Coffee County Schools Menu

February 24 - 28, 1997

BREAKFAST	LUNCH
Monday - French Toast, Syrup, Sausage Links, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Monday - Cold Cut Sandwich or Fried Chicken, Creamed Potatoes, Steamed Cabbage, Rolls, Cantaloupe & Honey Dew Cup, Milk
Tuesday - Cheese Toast, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Tuesday - Beef & Veg. Soup or Baked Pork Chop, Baked Potato, Broccoli, Pineapple, Peanut Butter/Jelly Sandwich 1/2, Rolls, Crackers, Milk
Wednesday - Breakfast Pizza, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Wednesday - Chili or Chicken Pot Pie, Veg. Sticks w/Dip, Breaded Okra, Ice Cream Cup, Rice, Crackers, Milk
Thursday - Donut, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Thursday - Hamburger or Corned, Oven Fries, Lettuce, Tomato, Pickles, Baked Onion Rings, Orange Wedges, Milk
Friday - Cheese Grits, Buttered Toast, Jelly, Cereal, Juice, Milk	Friday - Taco Salad or Pizza, Whole Kernel Corn, Tater Tots, Grapes, Blueberry Muffin, Milk

*** Rebel Basketball ***

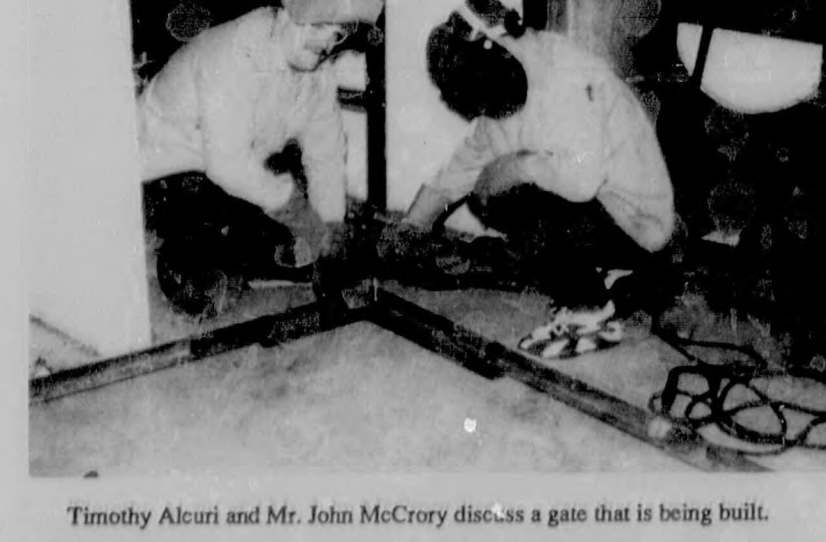
BOYS' VARSITY

by Ashley Thomas
The Zion Chapel Varsity Basketball team played Houston Academy in the first round of a recent tournament. The Raiders upset the Rebels with a 99 to 56 victory. The Raiders managed to take an early lead in the first quarter by scoring 29 points. Andre Flowers, Josh Grantham, and Bo Adkinson put 15 points on the scoreboard for the Rebels. In the second quarter, the Raiders damaged the Rebels by making several three-pointers. Houston Academy made all the free throws that were attempted except one. Andre Flowers scored 4 points, Bo Adkinson scored 3 points, and Wesley Clark scored 2 points in an attempt to catch the Raiders.

In the third quarter, the Rebels' defense slowed the Raiders allowing them to score only 19 points. The Rebels' offense was able to put 13 points on the scoreboard to narrow the Raiders' lead. In the fourth quarter, the Raiders' offense overcame the Rebels' defense and scored 20 points. The trailing Rebels managed to add 15 points. Despite their efforts, the Rebels were not able to overcome the Raiders. The final score was Zion Chapel 56 and Houston Academy 99.

Andre Flowers was the leading scorer for the Rebels by scoring 23 points in the game. Wesley Clark scored 12 points, Josh Grantham scored 10 points, and Bo Adkinson scored 7 points for the Rebels. Ben Pritchett and Chan Grantham scored two points each.

The team members, their parents, and friends were invited. Prior to the game, Mrs. Kaye Donnelly, Z.C. Varsity Girls coach, called to reserve a room at the restaurant. Courtney Moran, Bridget Money, and Wyndi Rugg, senior basketball players, were each given a gift.



Timothy Alcuri and Mr. John McCrory discuss a gate that is being built.

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ZION CHAPEL HIGH SCHOOL REBEL NEWS

Rachel Bryan, Sponsor
Julie Carter, Editor
Heather Vaughan, Editor

Performing Arts At ZC

by Jennifer Myers, Guest Columnist

Zion Chapel High School has recently been awarded a grant for a program called Performer Arts Association. There were fifteen seventh and eighth grade girls chosen by a computer to participate in the program. The seventh graders chosen are Kelli Sanders, Shannon Pope, Dawn Hivin, Crystal McLean, Jill Hunt, Laura Graham, Kasey Rhodes, and Jamie Langley. The girls meet each Wednesday for an hour to talk about their routines, music, and what they will wear. The girls wear black leotards, black sweaters, pink tights, and pink ballet shoes. If they want, the girls may buy a black skirt to go over the leotards. The girls will go to Dothan and to Atlanta to see a play called "My Fair Lady." They will also go to see their teacher's ballet class. Their teacher's name is Laura Brown and she is a former student of Zion Chapel. This class is paid for by the Performing Arts Association, so the girls do not have to pay for their classes. The girls are taking are jazz, hip hop, and ballet.

JENNIFER MYERS

Faculty Vs Faculty Basketball

by Vanessa McCraney

The Rock and Rollers and the Oldies but Moldies played against each other in a Z.C. faculty basketball game. During the first quarter, the Rock and Rollers managed to gain an early lead by scoring 17 points with the help of Coach Doug Branson who scored six points. During the second quarter, Coach David Collins scored four points for the Oldies but Moldies. Unfortunately, these points couldn't compete with the eleven points made by the Rock and Rollers. The Oldies but Moldies were fighting hard in the third quarter and as a result, they added 16 points to the scoreboard. However, this was not enough to overcome the Rock and Rollers who were leading with a score of 36-33 at the end of the third quarter.

Coach Doug Branson scored five points for the Rock and Rollers in the fourth quarter. Coach David Collins, Coach John McCrory, and Mr. Kenney scored two points each.

Cancer Detection Class Taught

by Bridget Money

The American Cancer Society and the School of Nursing at George Wallace College offered the seniors and juniors from Zion Chapel High a short class in self examination to detect cancer. Many people in the community have been diagnosed with cancer. As a result, Dr. Linda Ingram, Zion Chapel High School principal, felt that this would be a service to the students.

The males and females were taught separately by nursing students of the same sex under the direction of supervisors from Wallace College. During the presentation the students were given a test to see how educated they were about the early detection of cancer. Videos were shown to the students to demonstrate the self examination. The students were given an opportunity to get pamphlets not only for themselves but also for other family members and friends.

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ZC Beta Club Meets

by Heather Vaughan

At a recent Zion Chapel Senior High Beta Club meeting, the club discussed the upcoming Beta convention, a fund-raiser, and the grades of members. The annual Beta Club convention will be held at the Sheraton Civic Center Inn on March 6, 7, and 8. Due to few chaperones, only Beta officers, competitors, and Mrs. Sonya Shaw, the Beta sponsor, may attend the convention. The convention is a time for all of the Alabama Beta Chapters to come together and compete against each other in academic and talent competitions.

At the meeting President Hanna Whit passed out poster sales pamphlets to the members for the club fund raiser. Half of the profit raised by Beta officers and competitors will go toward the cost of their rooms at the convention. All members will have two weeks in which to sell the posters. The Beta Club, an organization which requires members to maintain a certain average to remain an active member, is for students who excel in their academic accomplishments. Prior to the meeting, Mrs. Shaw evaluated the first semester grades of each member to determine member's academic standing in the club. At the meeting, she informed some members of their ineligibility as a result of their first semester grades.

Painting the pictures was fun and all of them look very good," said one art student. This year is the first year that Zion Chapel High School has offered a class in art.

4th Graders Build Log Cabins

by Twanna Haynes

Log cabins were made by the members of the fourth grade under the supervision of Mrs. Chris Sutley. Building the log cabins was an activity for Alabama Pioneer History Week. The students are studying the history of pioneers and the types of homes in which they lived. The students were given handouts which illustrated some of the ways they could make the log cabins. The hand-



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Views from

The Pressbox

By Ricky Mularz, Sports Editor

While Valentine's Day may not mean a lot to many people, it carries a great deal of importance to children, and especially one eight-year-old girl living in the Mularz house. Melanie greeted me with a homemade Valentine's card when I got in from work Friday afternoon and gave Dad a great big hug, then did the same for Mom. Later that night she asked me if she could go to the store, and even though it was pouring down rain, I agreed to take her. It seems that she was feeling bad because she had given everyone in the family a present except her older sister, and she just had to get something before everyone went to bed. Well, we both got wet, but Melanie found a little rose in a miniature wooden shelf at one of the convenience stores, and after coloring the paper bag she brought it home in, she gave it to her sister and said a great big "Happy Valentine's Day!" The gift wasn't very big, and wasn't expensive, but it was the best Valentine's present I have ever seen, and now I'm sure more than ever that Melanie's heart is even bigger than the one on the box she gave to her Mom and Dad. It was indeed a very special day that I will remember always.

CLEANING OFF THE DESK AND TAKING DOWN THE NETS...

As another high school basketball season comes to an end for area teams, it is time to clean off the desk and jot down a few notes about the season. Here goes...

***The Elba Tigers dropped their final two games on the road last week to end the season with a 17-9 record. The Tigers came on strong late in the season and are probably better than some of the teams still around at the Regional Tournaments, it just so happened that they had to meet the highly-ranked Headland Rams, in Headland, in the area finals, and then make the long trip up to Holtville to battle the defending state champs, in Sub-State. While it was true the Tigers didn't play their best in either game, they did play well throughout the season and posted the school's best record in many years. This year's Tigers set the tone for years to come, and you best believe me when I say winning basketball is here to stay in Tigertown.

***The New Brockton Gamecocks, Kinston Bulldogs, Zion Chapel Rebels and Brantley Bulldogs also saw their seasons end before the Regional Tournaments began. The Gamecocks improved as much as any team I have seen in years during the course of the season and simply ran into a very good Goshen team in the area tourney, while Kinston made it to Sub-State before running into one of the state's best teams in Autaugaville, and should be proud of the wins it put in the ledger during the year. Zion Chapel had a season to forget and failed to win a game, but the Rebels never quit and showed the kind of pride it will take to put the program back among the winners. Brantley fought youth and internal problems throughout the season and then ran into an outstanding team in Fruittale and saw the season end earlier than expected. Don't let the Bulldogs' however, because they don't feel sorry for themselves, and are already making plans for next season. It wasn't a year to brag about for any of the area teams, but all the teams played hard and represented their schools well.

***The Southeast Regional Basketball Tournament is underway this week at Troy State, and the field this year in the six classes is really balanced, which should lead to a very exciting event. The tournament finals will be played on Friday and Saturday, and anyone that is a true basketball fan should make plans to attend.

***The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation will host the ARPA District Tournaments next week in three divisions, which will bring 27 youth teams to town for the two-day event. Elba will field teams in all three divisions, including the girls' tournaments, despite the fact this is the first year the girls have played in a league. The Elba All-Stars will be the biggest underdogs in the girls' events, but will no doubt give it all they have and should set the tone for years to come.

Zion Chapel exits early

Kinston settles for second

The Kinston Bulldogs and Zion Chapel Rebels made the trip to Dothan last week for the Class 1A, Area 4 basketball tournament, with the Bulldogs claiming one win to advance to sub-region action.

Following are tournament highlights:

SEMI-FINALS:

KINSTON 87

ARLTON 81

The Kinston Bulldogs rallied from a seven-point deficit with a minute left in regulation to send the game into overtime, and then pulled away in the second extra period to claim an exciting 87-81 win over the Arlton Purple Cats, last Monday night in Dothan.

Arlton owned a 68-61 lead with a minute left in the fourth quarter and appeared headed for a win, but a 3-pointer by Ara Moore cut the Cats' lead to 68-64, a steal and lay-up by Josh Carney pulled the Dogs within 68-66 and a another basket by Carney pulled Kinston even at 68-68 with :32 still left on the clock.

The Bulldogs regained possession with :23 left on the clock, but failed to score in a last-second shot, and the game went into overtime.

Neither team was able to take charge in the first overtime; however, Kinston reeled off the first seven points of the second overtime and held on to take the wild 87-81 win.

Josh Carney scored 19 points to lead Kinston, while Ara Moore and Tim Edwards both scored 16, and Ronnie Sanson and Allen Bowdoin scored 12 points apiece.

Mikie Terry led Arlton with 26 points, while Kenny Sanders added 16.

HOUSTON ACAD. 99

ZION CHAPEL 56

The Zion Chapel Rebels saw

their long season come to an end last Monday night as the Houston Academy Raiders rolled to a lopsided 99-56 win.

The Raiders came out gunning against the Rebels and poured in 29 first quarter points to grab a 29-15 advantage, then continued their onslaught early in the second stanza by opening up a whopping 48-19 lead.

The second half was academic as Houston Academy easily coasted in with the big win.

Andre Flowers scored 23 points to lead the (0-19) Rebels, while Clay Jordan led (17-6) Houston Academy with 17 points.

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME:

HOUSTON ACAD. 62

KINSTON 46

The Kinston Bulldogs scored only two points in the second quarter to lose an early lead and never recovered last Wednesday night to fall to the Houston Academy Raiders 62-46, in the area finals.

Kinston battled the heavily-favored Raiders on even terms throughout the first quarter and owned an 11-10 lead, but managed only 27-26 at the half, only to fall behind 38-31 at the half on the short end of a 22-14 score.

The Bulldogs rallied to pull within 27-24 midway through the third quarter and appeared ready to regain command; however, Houston Academy answered with a 14-3 run to take a 41-27 lead and easily held on for the win.

Allen Bowdoin scored 13 points and Ara Moore added 10 to lead Kinston, while Clay Jordan scored 17 for the Raiders.

Kinston players named to the All-Tournament team were Tim Edwards, Josh Carney and Allen Bowdoin.

The loss left the Gamecocks with a final record of 13-13, while Goshen advanced with the win, and later earned a spot in the Class 2A Regional Tournament with a win over Florida in Sub-State competition.

The Gamecocks battled the Eagles on even terms throughout the opening two quarters and trailed only 27-26 at the half, only to fall behind 38-31 after three quarters.

Goshen built up a 14-point lead early in the fourth quarter and appeared ready to blow the Gamecocks out of the gym; however, New Brockton rallied and pulled within 50-48 in the closing minutes.

The Eagles won 61-54, and the foul line in the final minute of play, and the Gamecocks saw their gallant rally fall short.

Robert Fleming scored 15 points to lead New Brockton, while Andre Medley added 14.

Fall to Headland in area finals

Tigers race past Rehobeth 94-57

The Elba Tigers competed in the Class 3A, Area 3 basketball tournament last week in Headland and posted one win and one loss to place second in the three-team event.

The Tigers defeated Rehobeth 94-57 in the opening round to reach the finals, but fell to Headland 58-51 to settle for the runner-up spot.

Following are highlights of both Elba games:

OPENING ROUND:

ELBA 94

REHOBETH 57

The Elba Tigers pulled ahead early and were never threatened as they blasted the Rehobeth Rebels 94-57, in opening round action last Monday night.

The Tigers came out ready to play against the Rebels and bolted out to a 44-26 halftime lead, then after a lackluster third quarter blattered the nets for 37 fourth quarter points to claim the lopsided 94-57 win.

Michael Reed scored 25 points to lead Elba, while Derrick Daniels added 22 and Tim Ware scored 15.

E 23 21 13 37 - 94

R 15 11 10 21 - 57

Elba (94): Daniels 22, Jordan 8, Robinson 6, Murdock 2, Peterson 6, Rayborn 6, Reed 25, Siler 2, Ware 15, Mitchell 2.

R'beth (57): Snell 26, Richardson 8, Baxter 3, Stephens 7, Johnson 6, Prevatt 4, Tomberlin 3.

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME:

HEADLAND 58

ELBA 51

The Elba Tigers fell behind midway through the second stanza and could never catch-up last Wednesday night as the Headland Rams defeated the Tigers 58-51, to win the Area 3 tournament championship.

The win improved Headland's record to 21-6, while Elba slipped to 17-8 with the loss.

Headland jumped out to an early 4-0 lead in the opening stanza, but the Tigers quickly regrouped and sparked by the play of Michael Reed, reeled off seven straight points to take a 7-4 lead with 3:51 left in the quarter.

The lead see-sawed for the remainder of the first quarter, with the score being tied at 12-12 at the end of the stanza.

The loss left Elba with a final record of 17-9, while Headland improved to 14-10 with the win.

The Tigers managed only three baskets in the opening stanza as Holtville grabbed a commanding 17-6 first quarter advantage.

Elba's Michael Reed scored 8 points in the second quarter as the Tigers staged a rally; however, the Tigers missed on 10 of 15 free-throw attempts and at the half trailed the Bulldogs 38-21.

Reed, a 6'3", senior, continued to pour in the points in the third quarter as he tossed in 10 points and paced the Tigers to their best offensive period of the night, but Holtville's lead was too large to overcome and the Bulldogs easily held on in the final stanza to claim the win and advance to Regional play 22 weeks at Troy State.

Elba's Michael Reed led all scorers with 26 points, while Holtville was led by Reggie Marshall with 18.

H 17 21 14 13 - 65

E 6 15 16 10 - 47

H'ville (65): Marshall 18, Ezell 14, Walls 3, E. Ellis 15, K. Ellis 12, Quinn 3.

Elba (47): Thigpen 1, Jordan 3, Robinson 4, Wicker 1, Siler 2, Ware 2, Rayborn 5, Cole 3, Reed 26.

The New Brockton Gamecocks competed in the Class 2A, Area 4 basketball tournament last week in Luverne and made an early exit as they were eliminated by the Goshen Eagles 58-49, in opening round action.

The loss left the Gamecocks with a final record of 13-13, while Goshen advanced with the win, and later earned a spot in the Class 2A Regional Tournament with a win over Florida in Sub-State competition.

The Gamecocks battled the Eagles on even terms throughout the opening two quarters and trailed only 27-26 at the half, only to fall behind 38-31 after three quarters.

Goshen built up a 14-point lead early in the fourth quarter and appeared ready to blow the Gamecocks out of the gym; however, New Brockton rallied and pulled within 50-48 in the closing minutes.

The Eagles won 61-54, and the foul line in the final minute of play, and the Gamecocks saw their gallant rally fall short.

Robert Fleming scored 15 points to lead New Brockton, while Andre Medley added 14.

Elba sneaked back on top 18-16 with 4:57 remaining in the second quarter on a short jumper by Derrick Daniels; however, the Tigers missed the front-end of three straight one-and-one free-throw opportunities and the Rams scored nine unanswered points to move on top 25-18 with :35 left on the clock and went in at the half with a 27-20 advantage.

Headland's lead went to 29-20 early in the third quarter and it looked like the Tigers might be blown out of the gym, but Elba answered the challenge and led by the play of Derrick Daniels and Eric Jordan cut the lead to 31-28 with 5:31 left in the period.

Headland regained command and went on top 37-28 with 2:48 left in the quarter, only to see the Tigers again battle back and ride the shooting of Larry Rayborn and Derrick Daniels to pull within 37-35 with 1:22 on the clock.

Headland grabbed its biggest lead of the game at 50-40 with 2:54 remaining in the fourth quarter, but Elba simply would not go away without a fight and cut the deficit to 54-51 with :28 left on the clock on a driving lay-up by Larry Rayborn.

The Tigers had a chance to cut into the lead even more in the closing seconds, but Headland hit on a 4 of 6 free-throw tosses in the final 26-seconds to hold on and claim the 58-51 win.

Derrick Daniels scored 17 points and Michael Reed added 10 to lead Elba, while Donnie Culver led Headland with 14.

H'land (58): Horruy 5, Allen 11, Fluker 9, Fluker 7, Severson 8, Culver 14, Jackson 4.

Elba (51): Daniels 17, Jordan 6, Robinson 3, Peterson 5, Rayborn 6, Reed 10, Cole 3, Ware 1.

H 12 15 16 15 - 58

E 12 15 16 15 - 51

H'land (58): Horruy 5, Allen 11, Fluker 9, Fluker 7, Severson 8, Culver 14, Jackson 4.

Elba (51): Daniels 17, Jordan 6, Robinson 3, Peterson 5, Rayborn 6, Reed 10, Cole 3, Ware 1.

Elba ends season with 65-47 sub-state loss

The Elba Tigers invaded Holtville Friday night to battle the defending state champion Holtville Bulldogs in Sub-State basketball action, and saw their season come to an abrupt end as they fell behind early and never caught up in suffering a 65-47 defeat.

The loss left Elba with a final record of 17-9, while Holtville improved to 14-10 with the win.

The Tigers managed only three baskets in the opening stanza as Holtville grabbed a commanding 17-6 first quarter advantage.

Elba's Michael Reed scored 8 points in the second quarter as the Tigers staged a rally; however, the Tigers missed on 10 of 15 free-throw attempts and at the half trailed the Bulldogs 38-21.

Reed, a 6'3", senior, continued to pour in the points in the third quarter as he tossed in 10 points and paced the Tigers to their best offensive period of the night, but Holtville's lead was too large to overcome and the Bulldogs easily held on in the final stanza to claim the win and advance to Regional play 22 weeks at Troy State.

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H'ville (65): Marshall 18, Ezell 14, Walls 3, E. Ellis 15, K. Ellis 12, Quinn 3.

Elba (47): Thigpen 1, Jordan 3, Robinson 4, Wicker 1, Siler 2, Ware 2, Rayborn 5, Cole 3, Reed 26.

Over 1,000 dogs

to compete Feb.24

at Kennel Show

Approximately 1,000 purebred dogs representing most AKC registered breeds will be in Dothan on Monday, Feb.24, for the Southeast Alabama Kennel Club's annual "All Breed Dog Show and Obedience Trial."

The event will be held from 8:00 AM until 4:00 PM, at the Houston County Farm Center, and admission is free.

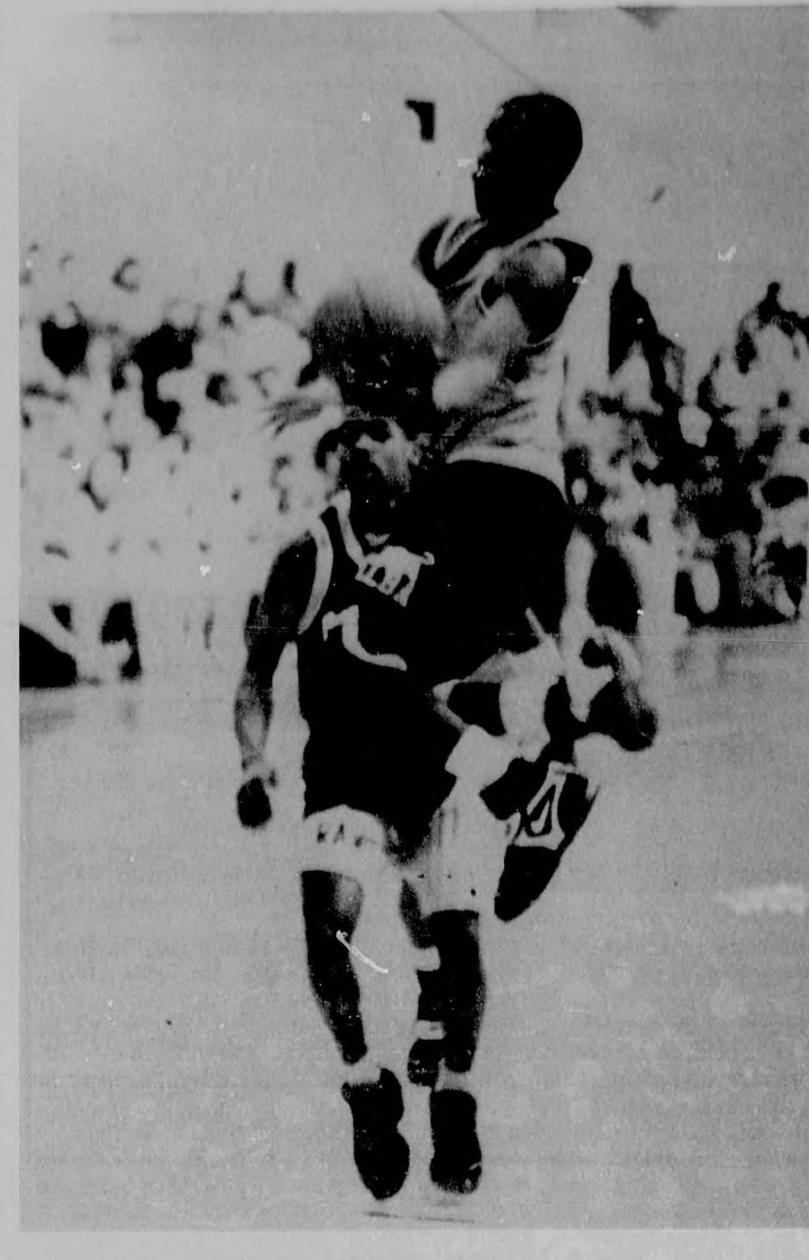
Some of the top dogs from throughout the United States and foreign countries will be entered in the annual event, and for more information call 334/793-3264 or 334/598-6683.

The One Mile Fun Run will start after the 5,000 meter race, with a registration fee of \$6.

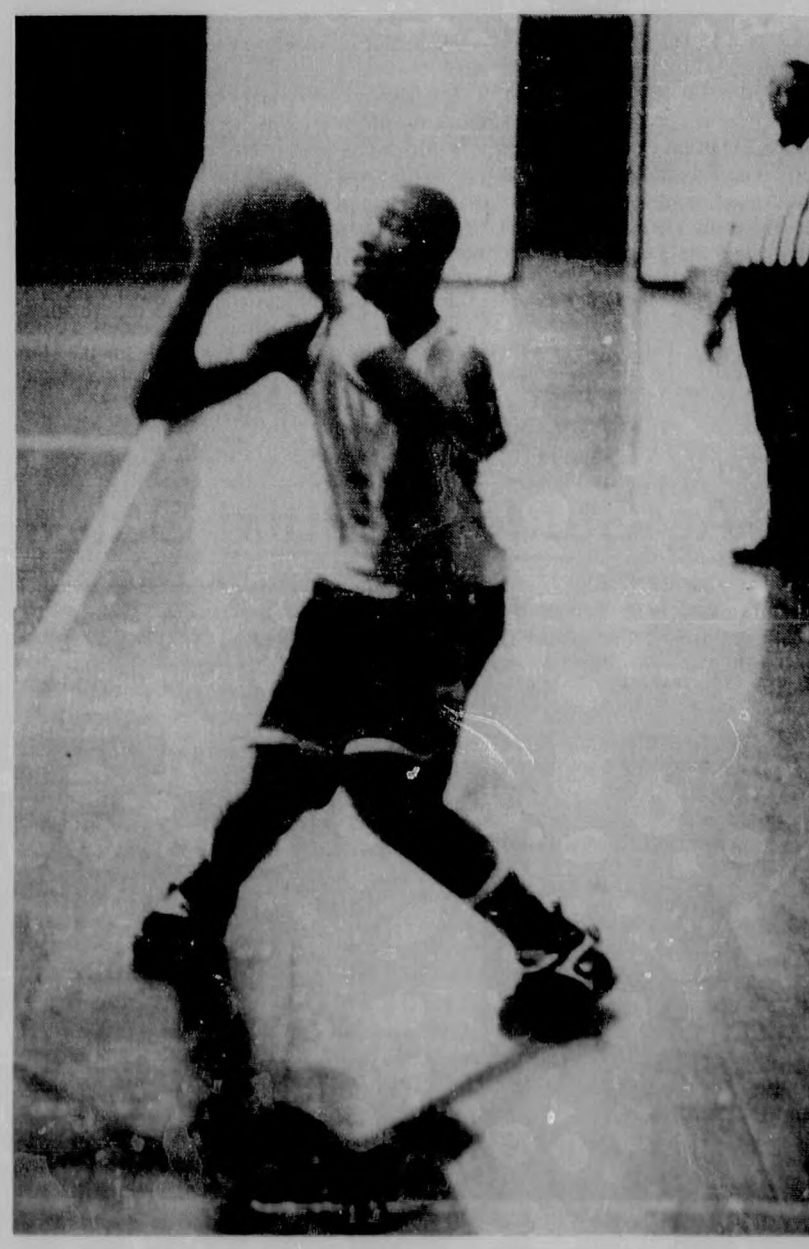
The course is mostly flat with some rolling hills, and there will be splits at the one and two mile marks, with a first aid station.

All paid entrants will receive a 5,000 meter tank top, with awards being presented to male and female overall Masters and Grand Masters. Post race refreshments will be available, and there will be door prize drawings.

For more information call Dale Thomas at 334/347-4573, or the Daleville Chamber of Commerce at 334/598-6331.



Elba sophomore Eric Jordan sails past a Headland defender during action last week in the Class 3A, Area 3 tournament. The Tigers placed second in the three-team event.



TAKING AIM ON A THREE....is Tiger senior Michael Reed (34). Reed scored 26 points Friday night in Elba's 65-47 sub-state loss to Holtville.

Fireball 5,000 set for March 8

The Mark Thomas Fireball 5,000 Run and One-Mile Fun Run will be held on March 8 at 9:00 AM at the Billy Adkins Community Center, in Daleville.

The race is sponsored by the Daleville Chamber of Commerce. Registration for the 5,000 meter run will start at 7:30 AM with a cost of \$12 the day of the race. The pre-registration fee will be \$10, if received by March 6.

The One Mile Fun Run will start after the 5,000 meter race, with a registration fee of \$6.

The course is mostly flat with some rolling hills, and there will be splits at the one and two mile marks, with a first aid station.

All paid entrants will receive a 5,000 meter tank top, with awards being presented to male and female overall Masters and Grand Masters. Post race refreshments will be available, and there will be door prize drawings.

For more information call Dale Thomas at 334/347-4573, or the Daleville Chamber of Commerce at 334/598-6331.

Mack Wood to be inducted into Wiregrass Sports Hall of Fame

The fifth class of the Wiregrass Sports Hall of Fame was formally announced last week, and included among the six 1997 inductees will be former Elba High School's head football coach Mack Wood.

The six inductees will be honored at the Hall of Fame banquet on Friday, March 7, at the Dothan Civic Center, beginning at 7:00 PM.

Other area sports figures to be inducted at the annual event will be Molly Black, Clarence Slaughter, Dexter Wood, Max Griffin and Calvin Jones. Each inductee will receive a plaque, while another plaque will be placed on the Wiregrass Hall of Fame wall located on the first floor of the Dothan Civic Center.

The Wiregrass Hall of Fame was

Elba Department of Parks and Recreation RECREATION ROUND-UP

Men's softball meeting set for Feb.26

Anyone interested in placing a team in the Elba Men's Softball League should attend an organizational meeting on Wednesday, Feb.26, at 7:00 PM at the Elba Recreation Center, located on N. Claxton Avenue. The entry fee for the league this season will be \$10 per player and \$15 per team, which will include the state sanctioning fee. The league season is scheduled to begin in mid-March. For more information call 897-6833.

Church and Women's meetings set

Anyone wishing to enter a team in the Elba Church Softball League of the Elba Women's Softball League should be present at an organizational meeting on Wednesday, Feb.26, at 7:30 PM at the Elba Recreation Center, located on N. Claxton Avenue. The entry fee will be \$10 per player and \$15 per team, and will include the state sanctioning fee. The leagues are scheduled to begin in April. For more information call 897-6833.

Baseball and softball sign-up March 3-14

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation has announced that registration for the upcoming youth baseball and softball leagues will be held from March 3-14, with registration forms to be available to all students in the Elba City School system.

Baseball leagues will include T-Ball, for boys ages 4-6; Coach-Pitch, for boys ages 7-8; Dixie Minor, for boys ages 9-10; Dixie Youth, for boys ages 11-12; Dixie Boys, for boys ages 13-14; Dixie Pre-Majors, for boys ages 15-16; and Dixie Majors, for boys ages 17-18. The registration fee will be \$10 per person, \$17.50 for two members of the same immediate family and \$25 for three members or more of the same immediate family. Fees will be due prior to the issuing of uniforms.

Softball leagues will include T-Ball for girls ages 4-6; Coach-Pitch, for girls ages 7-8; Midget Girls, for girls ages 10 and Under; Junior Girls, for girls ages 12 and Under; and Senior Girls, for girls 15-16. The registration fee will be \$10 per person, \$17.50 for two members of the same immediate family and \$25 for three or more members of the same immediate family. Fees will be due prior to the issuing of uniforms.

For more information call 897-6833.

Coaches are needed for youth teams

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation is seeking coaches for teams in the upcoming youth baseball and softball leagues. The baseball leagues will include T-Ball, for boys ages 4-6; Coach-Pitch, for boys ages 7-8; Dixie Minor, for boys ages 9-10; Dixie Youth, for boys ages 11-12; Dixie Boys, for boys ages 13-14; Dixie Pre-Majors, for boys ages 15-16; and Dixie Majors, for boys ages 17-18. The registration fee will be \$10 per person, \$17.50 for two members of the same immediate family and \$25 for three or more members of the same immediate family. Fees will be due prior to the issuing of uniforms.

For more information call 897-6833.

ARPA tournaments set Feb.28-March 1

The Elba Department of Parks and Recreation will host the 1997 Alabama Recreation and Parks Association District 8 Basketball Tournaments in three divisions on Friday, Feb.28, and Saturday, March 1, at Elba High School. The tournaments will include nine teams in the 10 and Under, and ten teams in the 12 and Under Tournaments.

All games will be played at the Elba High School gym and the Elba High School physical education gym.

Turkey calling contest tonight in Linden

Chances to win thousands of dollars will bring turkey hunters and callers to yelp in the Alabama Turkey Hunter's Hall of Fame 11th Annual Calling Contest on Feb.20, in Linden.

Yelping, cackling, gobbling turkey callers will also earn points for the national competitions in the national Wild Turkey Federation sanctioned contest.

Professional callers will compete for the \$500 first place money, and in addition to the cash prizes, the winners will also receive hand-some plaques and national recognition.

The hunter division is open to all who have never won in the professional division, with the junior division being for hunters 16 years of age, and under.

The owl division is a free-for-all with no limits, and owlers often use a body language that brings the crowd alive.

Doors open at 4:00 PM, with the contest set to begin at 6:30 in the junior division.

Door prizes will include an "Ulti" turkey gun, a 3 1/2 inch 12 gauge, six-shot automatic with camouflage and strap; a lithographic print of an original oil painting of a wild turkey by William Harris, and in addition to the cash prizes, the winners will also receive hand-some plaques and national recognition.

For more information, call John Holley at 334-295-4151 or 334-295-5372.

Fees are \$30 for the open division, \$15 for the hunter division, \$10 for the junior division and \$5 for the owl contest.

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DRIVERS - Swift announces retention in-
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The Elba Clipper

VOLUME 100, NUMBER 38

50 CENTS

ELBA, ALABAMA, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1997

1 SECTION, 14 PAGES PLUS 2 ADV INSERTS

Coffee County Commission chooses road projects for FY-98

By Marvin McLwain, Editor

In Monday's meeting of the Coffee County Commission, commissioners dealt mostly with housekeeping chores.

The passing of resolutions, hearing and granting requests, and approving the FY-98 Federal Aid Resurfacing Program were major items on the agenda.

Shortly into the meeting, County Engineer Randy Tindell asked commissioners to review the recommended roads to be considered for the FY-98 program, and to choose the ones to be resurfaced.

Commissioners had met with the engineer in a work session since the last commission meeting; therefore, a quick review of the proposed projects was all that was necessary before making their decision.

Tindell explained, for the benefit of the media, that those county roads deemed "major collector roads" (main thoroughfares which connect the population to the work centers) by the state highway department are eligible for federal aid funds.

"Less than half of the county's roads qualify as major collectors," said Tindell.

He stated that even though the county has roads that are in worse condition than those recommended by him for the program, they do not qualify for federal aid.

Commissioners approved the following roads for the FY-98 project: Co. Rd. 206 and a portion of 201 from AL Hwy. 87 to AL Hwy. 167; Co. Rd. 625 from Co. Rd. 636 to the Geneva County line; and possibly Co. Rd. 622 from Co. Rd. 610 to the Enterprise Airport Road.

Tindell estimated the total cost of these projects to be \$590,000.00. He noted that should the federal funding be received, it will only be for \$402,000.00. The county will have to fund all over that amount or cut back on the project.

Turning to other matters, commissioners heard a request for the Coffee County Public Building Authority for permission to use the county's attorney, Kenneth Fuller.

Commission Chairman Tom Grimsley explained that the authority wanted to use Fuller in preparing, or handling, any legal documents or matters concerning the construction of the new Enterprise Courthouse.

He then made the motion to grant the request.

During the discussion of the motion, Commissioner Kayo Lewis asked why the authority couldn't pay for its own legal representative.

Grimsley explained that it really didn't matter since the county has to bear the expense whether the attorney is paid by the commission or through the authority.

The motion passed in a 5-2 vote. Commissioners Lewis and Len Avertt opposed the motion.

Grimsley presented a proposed bill by State Representative Garreth Moore which would phase out the current superannuation program for certain elected officials in Coffee County, and would allow them to participate in the State Employees' Retirement System.

This is local legislation (affecting only Coffee County) which amends the Alabama Constitution of 1901, and would have to be voted on by the people.

Should the bill be passed by the legislature and signed by the governor, it probably will not appear on a ballot until the next general election which will be held in 1998.

Moore stated that the bill could save the county a great deal of money in the future if superannuation is done away with. They are paid out of the county's general fund.

At the present time, the county is not paying any superannuations. The late Sheriff H. D. Tillman was the only one being paid.

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According to Moore, this same bill has or is being proposed by 40 other counties in Alabama.

Other items of business acted on by the commission were as follows:

***Voted to have a "discretionary" administrative meeting on Friday, preceding the regular bi-monthly meeting on the second and fourth Mondays of each month. The purpose of these meetings will be to discuss what is on the agenda, but to take no action until the regular meeting. Commissioners will be notified when these meetings are to be held.

***Adopted the millage rate for Coffee County - 7 mills for the general fund, 3.5 mills for the road and bridge fund, and 5 mills for county schools.

***Passed a resolution adopting the Citizen Participation Plan as required by the Alabama Department of Community and Economic Affairs in order to qualify for Community - Development - Block - Grant Funds.

***Appointed Elba Mayor James Grimes to serve on the Council on Aging. He replaces Brad Wilson

who requested that he be removed from the council.

***Approved the commission chairman's signing of agreements with the state highway department on the Mercer Livestock Industrial Access Project on Co. Rd. 651 and Coffee Gin Industrial Access Project on Co. Rds. 708 & 709.

***Authorized the highway department to send out bid requests for pipe and motor grader blades.

***Reappointed Judy Hurley to the Goodman Water Authority with her term ending in the year 2003.

After getting shore, Paul ran more than a mile to the nearest house to call for help.

Enterprise personnel responded to the scene from Enterprise, as well as from Dothan. Enterprise police

Both of the young men, instead of Alabama Department of Forensic Sciences in Dothan to determine the cause of death. The results were not known at press time.

Paul was taken to Medical Center Enterprise and kept overnight for observation. According to Whitehead, he was suffering from hypothermia. He was released on Monday.

Brown was a junior at New Brockton High School. He was the son of James and Rebecca Brown of New Brockton. His father is the chief of New Brockton's Volunteer Fire Department and captain of the rescue squad. He owns and operates Coffee Auto Repair in New Brockton.

Principals and superintendents in both school systems have prior knowledge of these unannounced "drug and weapon sweeps" are going to be made; however, they do not know the exact date and time.

They have given their consent and have pledged their cooperation to law enforcement officials in these type operations.

Coordinating the operation last Friday were Coffee County Deputy Sheriff Jack Herbert and his partner Ferro. They are members of the 12th Judicial Circuit Drug Task Force.

K-9 units from Elba, Enterprise, Opp, Geneva, Dothan, and Midland City Police Departments, along with a unit from the Houston County Sheriff's Department joined Herbert and Ferro in the two searches.

All of the K-9 units represented in Friday's operation are members of the Southern States Canine Handlers' Association. Association members who are available will assist other members anytime during these type searches.

"The increased number of canines allows the officers to make a more thorough search and do it in a short time. This allows classes and school activities to be disrupted a minimal length of time."

After "sweeping" Elba's school, the K-9 units proceeded to Zion Chapel High School where the same procedure was followed.

During the search at Zion Chapel High School, one of the K-9 units "alerted" on a vehicle in the school's parking area several times.

A search of the vehicle revealed seed residue and a marijuana roach. Also, a B.B. pistol resembling a .45 caliber automatic was discovered.

The owner of the vehicle, Waylen J. Littlefield, age 18, was arrested and charged with possession of marijuana in the second degree.

Dr. Linda Ingram, principal of Zion Chapel High School, said, "I am certainly disappointed that any part of our school is involved in this. I am glad that if they are on campus, we have the means to detect them and deal with the problem. Drugs and guns have no place in schools."

"I am very supportive of these unannounced searches and any other program designed to make campuses safe for faculty members and students," she added.

Local schools invaded by K-9's from 8 law enforcement agencies

By Marvin McLwain, Editor

Schools in both Elba and Zion Chapel had unannounced visitors last Friday.

K-9 units from eight different law enforcement agencies came in unannounced at Elba High School early Friday morning. A thorough search of classrooms, lockers and vehicles on school grounds was made; however, no drugs or weapons were found.

Superintendent of Elba City Schools Charles Pearce was very pleased that no drugs or weapons were found on the campus.

"We are very supportive of these unannounced searches and very impressed with the number of canines participating in the operation," said Pearce.

"The increased number of canines allows the officers to make a more thorough search and do it in a short time. This allows classes and school activities to be disrupted a minimal length of time."

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Elba City Council buys two new police cars

By Ferrin Cox, Publisher

On Monday evening the Elba City Council bought two new police cars, signed a contract with the Chamber of Commerce, made a board appointment and heard a positive report on an environmental matter. Also a routine police report was presented and some government red tape handled.

The council awarded the bid on two new, full size police cars to Ben Atkinson Motors of Tallahassee. This firm has the state bid on police cars. The cars cost \$18,741.55 each and delivery is set for mid to late April.

Several local bids were received, but they didn't match the state bid price. The council also voted to solicit bids on a new pick-up truck for use in the recreation department. Bids will be solicited for both full size and immediate size trucks. Councilman Ben Carpenter again voted against buying another vehicle.

The council approved renewal of an annual contract with the Elba

Chamber of Commerce for promoting the city at the previously approved rate of \$3,000 a year.

Mayor James Grimes recommended the contract be amended to place responsibility for the expenses of receptions, etc. with the Chamber because it is illegal for the city to fund the food and other refreshments for such events. The council agreed.

William Scarbrough was reappointed to another term on the Elba Planning & Zoning Board at the recommendation of the mayor.

Grimes was appointed the official voting representative to the annual League of Municipalities meeting in May. Ronnie Hammond was named first alternate and John W. Sharpless second alternate. Grimes indicated he intended to attend the convention.

Grimes told council members there was still a vacancy on the board, as Lamar Kelley resigned during the previous administration and had not been replaced. He asked council members to give him recommendations for this position.

A request from the fire department was tabled for further details. The mayor reported the fire chief and assistant chief had suggested the hiring of a private firm, at a cost of \$1200, to do an ISO inspection before actually calling for an official review of Elba's fire fighting abilities. Revealing the weaknesses in the system could ultimately save citizens money.

Circuit Judge dismisses lawsuit against the town of New Brockton

By Marvin McLwain, Editor

A \$50,000.00 lawsuit filed against the town of New Brockton has been dismissed by Circuit Judge Thomas E. Head.

The lawsuit was filed against the town after a claim was denied by the town council in March of 1996.

On August 14, 1996, Judge Head heard a motion to dismiss the suit by the defendants. He granted the motion and dismissed the case on February 7, 1997.

In the suit, the plaintiff, Jesse Snyder, alleges that on or about November 8, 1995, he was at his home in New Brockton when Jerry Gilbert, a New Brockton police officer, arrested him without just cause.

It further alleges that he was placed in the Coffee County Jail in New Brockton, an adult facility, and that as a direct and approximate consequence of Jerry Gilbert's conduct, he was injured.

The lawsuit filed by Snyder through his parents, Edward and Rebecca Snyder, claimed that he was injured as a result of his arrest.

The following was listed as his injuries: he was caused to suffer humiliation and indignities; he was caused to suffer mental anguish and pain; and his reputation was tarnished and will continue to suffer the same in the future.

The defendants (officials of the Town of New Brockton) asked that the case be dismissed based on relevant statutory and case law. Their attorney pleaded immunity from liability based on an Alabama Code that states: "Every peace officer... shall at times be deemed to be officers of the state, and as such shall have immunity from tort liability arising out of his or her conduct in performance of any discretionary function within the line and scope of his or her law enforcement duties."

A subsection of the same code stated: "This section is intended to extend to peace officers and governmental units or agencies authorized to appoint peace officers."

In signing the order to dismiss the lawsuit, Judge Head referred to this, quoting the statute: "...evidences a legislative intent to grant governmental immunity to municipal police officers and their employing municipalities for the type or kind of conduct alleged against Officer Gilbert and the Town of New Brockton... there is no set of provable facts upon which the Plaintiffs could prevail in this action and the Defendants' motion to dismiss is procedurally appropriate."

HAPPENINGS

PANCAKES, PANCAKES, AND MORE PANCAKES. The Elba Lions Club will hold its annual pancake breakfast on Saturday, March 1, 1997, at the Elba Senior Citizens Center. Serving will begin at 6:00 a.m. and last until 10:00 a.m. The price for adults is \$3.00 and \$2.00 for children.

COMMUNITY SPIRIT DAY. Another Community Spirit Day is planned for Saturday, March 1, 1997, in the City of Elba. Kick-off for the event will begin with the Lion's Club Breakfast at the Senior Citizens Center at 6:30 a.m. Plans, along with garbage bags, will be available at the center at 6:00 a.m. There will be assigned pick-up points around town. The Chamber of Commerce is asking anyone who knows of a particular need for clean-up, destruction of old buildings, and general "sprucing up" to contact their city councilman (Dist. 1 - Winzell Gray @ 897-8411, Dist. 2 - Waylon Sharpless @ 897-6036, Dist. 3 - Harold Bannin @ 897-2241, Dist. 4 - Ben Carpenter @ 897-6242, and Dist. 5 - Ronnie Hammond @ 897-6949), or call the Chamber office at 897-3125 or Elba City Hall at 897-2333. Groups are urged to work together as prizes will be given for the most garbage collected. Group captains should contact the Chamber office to let them know who will be competing for prizes. All workers are invited to meet at the Adult Day Care Park (front of Old Coffee County Jail) at 12:00 noon for hot dogs, cokes, and community fellowship.

COUNCIL MEETING. The New Brockton Town Council will hold its monthly meeting on Monday, March 3, at 7:00 p.m. in the council chamber located in the New Brockton Town Hall.

HALL OF FAME BANQUET TICKETS. Tickets for the Wiregrass Sports Hall of Fame Banquet can be ordered by calling (334) 279-4618. The banquet will be Friday, March 7, 1997, at 7:00 p.m. in the Dothan Civic Center. Tickets are \$25 each. Former Elba Coach Mack Wood will be one of the six inductees.

NEWS BRIEF

George's Discount Grocery, 560 Geneva Highway, Enterprise, AL, owned by George and Jane Sayles has been barred from accepting food stamps after having been disqualified from the Women, Infants and Children (WIC) program for violations. WIC provides supplemental foods and nutrition education to low-income pregnant, postpartum and breastfeeding women, and infants and children. The disqualification and withdrawal period for both WIC and food stamps will be until December 3, 1999, according to the U. S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Consumer Service.